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REPORT TO THE NATION 0100 31 JULY 1944 Gen. HAROLD L. CLARK

3:22

t: One morning 200 pilots of Ninth Troop Carrier Command went out to their C-47's and took off into a howling wind. ---- It was two weeks after D Day. General Bradley was pushing up toward Cherbourg. But for four days a storm had been raging in the Channel. Barges were wrecked off the beach. It was impossible to land supplies. An SOS was flashed over to England - Bradley needed artillery and mortar shells, machine gun and rifle bullets. -- Within twelve hours the Ninth Troop Carrier Command delivered 500 tons.

Brigadier General Harold L. Clark, of San Antonio Texas is its Deputy Commander. He helped fill that order, and others since

That sort of emergency doesn't arise often, (I'm glad to say.) - But there are always things the commander in the field will need in a hurry. Only the other day we had a rush order from General Bradley for some special radio equipment --- and since the offensive started south of St. Lo we've flown a lot more missions than usual. Mainly we carry things like blood plasma and medical supplies and special equipment. And recently we've been taking a lot of mail over to the troops in France.

The ground forces can call on us at any time, in pretty nearly any kind of weather. It's our job to help them and we're proud to do it. In the first seven weeks after D Day we flew almost ten million pounds of combat supplies over to France for them.

t That's a record any dozen airlines'd be proud of. But from your name you're essentially a TROOP carrying command, aren't you?

CLARK: Yes, the freight carrying job is almost incidental. We're primarily a combat outfit. On D Day we first took the paratroops into Normandy; and then we came back and towed the gliders over. - And we'll repeat that ~~operation~~ any time there's another airborne operation. ~~- - - After the invasion it was our job to move personnel into the forward areas, - special units like the Aviation Engineers who had to get over in a hurry to prepare air strips and landing grounds.~~

But, you know what I get the most satisfaction out of, when our combat job is finished and we're doing this sort of work?

Hottelet: What?

CLARK: Well, it's ~~xxxxxxxx~~ seeing the air evac. ~~av~~iation nurse and the medical technician get aboard the plane and sit down on those cases of ammunition or ~~xxxxxxx~~ equipment. - - - Because, you see, the outward bound freight is only half the trip. On the return flight the planes carry wounded. We've already flown thousands of casualties back to England; and a lot of them have gone into a hospital here the same day they were wounded in Normandy.

It's good to know that you're not only helping the men fight; but that you're also giving them the best chance of recovery when they can fight no longer.

Hottelet: That was General Harold L. Clark of Ninth Troop Carrier Command.

We return you now to Report to the Nation in New York.

CBS Hottelet 1400 29 July 1944

The American front - some twenty miles broad between the Vire River and the Ocean - is still moving forward this morning. Pushing southward along the coast one armored column, has reached a pt 6 miles south of Coutances on the road to Brehal. This is the column composed of the two forces that met at Coutances yesterday, which have now completely cut off all German forces north of the twon.

But there are three other speahreahds driving south in that twenty mile American belt. One of them was reported this morning to have reached the village of St. Denis le Gast, only two miles from the important town of Gavray. There's no fresh newsthis morning of the other two columns - the ones farther inland that were moving toward Percy and southward along the Vire River.

The number of prisoners has so far gone up to over five thousand. And there will undoubtdely be more when the infantry completes mopping up the hedges and the tiny fields behind our advance. But there's no indication that the Germans are losing control of their withdrawal. It's still orderly and is being conducted with a good deal of skill -- which seems to be the only thing the Germans have at the moment to cope with our superior strength. They've managed to get their best troops out of our pocket - their Second SS Panzer Divison, the Panzer Lehrdivision and the 17 SS Panzergrenadiers. But their retreat hasn't stopped yet and there's no indication where the enemy will try to stop it. The actions being fought now are rear-guard actions, and not on any particular scale.

But the area west of the Vire river isn't the only part of the Normandie front where American troops are pushing ahead. They've taken the town of St. Jean de Baisants, six miles southeast of St Lo. It doesn't look as if the Germans are putting up very much opposition on this sector either, and it will probably not be very long before we'll be able to use the important lateral road from Caumont to St. Lo.

From this sector to the east there's no news of any fighting this morning. Only the Germans report counterattacks in the British and Canadian area south of Caen. As far as we know things are as quiet there as they've been the last few days. How long this will go on no one can tell - the enemy says the British are moving reinforcements up and that major operations are likely soon.

There's no word on the air side of the fighting in France this morning. It looks as if the weather weren't any too good there again, though. -- But the heavy bombers have been out over Germany today. The German radio this morning announced that strong formations of heavies were over Central Germany, and that fierce air battles had been fought. We don't know yet whatthe specific targets are. - This attack follows up a heavy blow struck by the RAF last night with more than a thousand heavies against the engineering and transport center of Stuttgart and against Hamburg.

Attention is focused on the new German secret weapon this morning by the announcement that Halifaxes again bombed a forest at Watten where some long range rockets are supposed to be stored. But it may be that the Germans have some more tricks up their sleeves an that heavy rocket. There's a good deal of talk among serious

people here in London that the Germans may have a jet-propelled fighter; a plane which, by its very nature, would be able to outfly any ~~ordinary~~ propellor-driven type at very high altitudes. Whether the Germans have such a plane in mass production we don't know, yet; but engineers and scientists in Britain have been working feverishly on models of jet propelled fighters of their own. And some [illegible] of these have already undergone rigorous tests in the air.

PRESS AND CENSORSHIP BUREAU

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CBS Hottelet 0045 29 July 1944

The American armored spearheads in Normandie are still pushing forward tonight. And there's still no telling where they're going to stop. -- Since the attack began three days ago our forces have advanced about fifteen miles at their furthest point, which is a town called Maupertuis, just north of Percy.

Now, this rate of five miles a day is a good advance, and it justifies some satisfaction; but it's certainly not a spectacular push. It's not meant to be. Our armor is not running wild. The combat teams of armor, infantry and artillery are staying together. General Bradley is riding very close herd on his units.

There seems to be a clearer picture emerging of what is going on in the American sector. The attack has been going on now for three days - and since it began....

The bitterest fighting was right at the beginning. The Germans defended their positions determinedly for about the first 36 hours of our attack. Our armor broke through this crust; and as soon as the Germans realized the game was up in that sector they began to withdraw, leaving holding forces behind them as they moved. Our combat teams have moved forward, overrunning these holding forces and leaving them to be mopped up by our following infantry. -- These forces have not been very large. So far we've captured about 4,000 prisoners - and there's no reason to think that the figure will reach the optimistic estimates of the last few days.

The German withdrawal is orderly and planned. What really is interesting - if you want to speculate - is where the

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enemy will stop and try to make a stand. A report from the front just in speaks of counterattacks against one of our spearheads below Notre Dame le Cenily.

But in any case the very fact that our armor isn't running ahead of itself means that General Bradley will be able to keep up steady pressure wherever he chooses. And all his eggs are not in one basket. There are no less than five armored columns in motion tonight. Two have already come together just north of the town of Coutances. A third is the one moving south throug Notre Dame. A fourth one is a bit to the left pushing south toward the town of Percy. And the fifth one, the one farthest east, is veered off southwestward from the left bank of the River Vire on beyond the town of Tessy and seems to be planning to join up with number four around Percy.

That's the cold strategic picture. Add to that the dust and the noise and the confusion of swift movement along small curving roads between high hedgerows; add to that the spirit and laughter and the grim sense of the hunter that's in our troops as they keep pushing on - if you want to get any human impression of the battlefield. --- One illustration is the story/ of some small detachments of the air force who've been detailed to support tiny tactical units of our ground forces. These men have the main job of swooping down and machine gunning hedgerows. They - and the boys on the ground get a big kick out of it. One of them said -- those snipers scamper out of the hedgrows like moths out of anovercoat in theautumn.

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~~2,000~~ 2,500 prisoners. But it wouldn't be fair on our men to ~~expect~~ commit them to complete a battle of encirclement. The Germans still have a way of escape more or less open. And ~~there~~ they have begun to pull out as much as they can.

~~The third~~ But there are three columns, and the third is pushing down due southward from St Lo. It's already reached the town of Le Mesnil Herman on the road between St Lo and Avranches. If this column can keep up its pace General Bradley might be able to turn it sharply ~~and~~ to the southwest, also, to catch the Germans south of Coutances. --- But it's better not to speculate. Let's wait for the facts. We have many divisions, including armored divisions on that front and they've got a commander who knows how to use them. We can expect those facts to be satisfactory.

Over o the British front the position has remained firm. No changes have been reported. About midway between the ~~the~~ British and American main bodies American troops have also pushed south across the Caumont- St. Lo road.

Inside germany today has brought the announcement of two more of the Generals involved in the plot to overthrow Hitler - and the name of one of them is very significant indeed. He is -- or was, because he's been shot --- General of Infantry Friedrich Olbricht, the head of the General Army Office of the Army High Command. This Office was the second most important in the base organization of the German Army. Apart from being second in command of ~~the~~ all training and replacement in the Reich, General Olbricht was in charge of devel-

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opment and delivery of all weapons and supplies to the fighting forces. -- Olbricht was a man who knew all the secrets of Germany's resources. And he was sure enough that Germany would lose this war to sacrifice his life to stop it now.

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PRESS AND CENSORSHIP BUREAU

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CBS Hottelet 1~~4~~500 27 July 1944

American forces on the western flank of the Normandie front continue to push ahead this morning, with their armored spearheads beginning to fan out from the point of breakthrough. The British forces on the eastern flank, though, not made any progress. The news from that part of the front today is that the fighting has pretty well died down except for a few points where the Germans tried some counterattacks during the night.

On the western side of the front General Bradley's infantry and armor are rolling ahead on a front some six miles wide. The latest word is that one armored column has taken the town of Canisy, two miles south of St. Gilles - and swept on beyond it. It's this column that is reported this morning to be fanning out now especially to the east and southeast. At the same time the other armored spearhead - the one farther westward that took Marigny yesterday-is also reported to be continuing on. One correspondent from the front speaks of a "serious breakthrough of the German lines", but it's probably too soon to come to any such farreaching conclusion. -- It does seem, though, as if the American troops were not meeting as stiff resistance on this particular sector as they had expected.

One particularly interesting aspect of General Bradley's attack is the fact that it's been carried out with armored spearheads. And that in the same kind of bocage country which has meant so much misery for tanks up to now. There doesn't seem to be much infantry preparation for the tank advance here at all. As a matter of fact, reports have come back of American infantr riding into battle like cowboys on the back of tanks.

....

A report just in says that south of St. Lo, where we used to have to fight for every yard of ground, our troops have pushed on a thousand yards without meeting mush resistance.

....

Despite fairly bad weathor yesterday was a good day in the air. In addition to the usual targets attacked behind the front, rocket carrying fighters and fighter bombers did good work against tanks. ~~xx~~ A good number were destroyed and damaged on both fronts. This morning weather over the battlefield is none too good, and there haven't been any reports of air activity over Normandie.

What little news comes out of Germany this morning mainly concerns the german press and radio trying to explain to the german people how to make the war even more tatal than it's been so far -- and how Goebbels expects to get more manpower after the halfdozen radical combouts there've been during the past two years. And meanwhile, with the Russians pressing toward Warsaw, news comes of the Nazis ordering ~~xxxx~~ preparations to defend East Prussia to the last ditch.

But the advance of the Russians has brought us problems, too. The Russians have set up their own Polish Government, and are dealing with it as the sovereign authority in Poland. But Great Britain still recognizes the Polish Government in exile in London -- and holds firm to the principle that unilateral boundary changes carried out ~~x~~ since the beginning of the war cannot be recognized. The Nazis are waiting and praying for just such a situation as this to arise to split the United Nations, and it's going to take calm nerves and good sense to make sure it doesn't.

CBS Hottelet 1400 27 July 1944

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On the British sector there's been pretty much of a standstill. Bitter German counterattacks yesterday retook important ground west of Caen - in the ground between the Odon and the Orne where General Montgomery had launched a more or less diversionary attack/ two weeks ago before beginning the main effort east and southeast of Caen. Here the Germans yesterday retook the important hill 112 with the town of Esquay; and also part of hill 113 overlooking Evrecy. -- After this success the germans dug in. During last night it seemed as if they were going to try to repeat thier tactics in the canadian sector farther east. Late in the afternoon the british noticed the Germans concentrating some tanks at one point. Rocket firing typhoons were sent out to break them up. The Typhoons destroyed five tanks and damaged eight more.-- All remained quiet then until about three o 'clock this morning when the Germans started forward against Canadian positions in the Verrieres sector. -- The enemy didn't give away his intentions by opening up with a great artillery barrage - he sent his infantry forward with fixed bayonets in the light of the moon. Crawling through fields and hedges they advanced to a position the British have named Dead Eye Dick ridge. --- The Canadians were waiting for them there and with machine guns blazing and flinging grenades as fast as they could move their arms they beat the Germans back.

The news from the air front in Normandie is none too good again today. -- But there has been activity farther afield, on the Germans rear lines of communications. Last night the RAF sent a force of Lancasters down to the south of France, below

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Lyons. ~~While they~~ And this morning Liberators went to Belgium to bomb German targets in the areas of Brussels and Ghent.

There's no fresh news of the situation in Germany this morning. The Nazi press is of course saying that Goehbels speech was just what the German people needed to restore their confidence and to spur them on to maximum effort. In view of reports from the Eastern Front this morning -- of Russian troops crossing the vistula, and farther north beginning a direct attack on Kovno -- it looks as if Goebbels direct promise, that the Eastern Front would be stabilized would be shown up as false to the German people before very much longer.

Here in London those people who worry as much about the condition of Europe after the war as they do about winning it, are devoting more of their attention to the Polish- Russian situation. -- Moscow has now started to deal with the Polish Committee of National Liberation as a sovereign government. But Great Britain still formally and publicly recognizes the Polish Government in London and takes the stand of not recognizing any teritorial changes that have taken place since the outbreak of the war. -- This is a political Gordian knot it's going to take much patience and wisdom to unravel.

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CBS Hottelet 1400 26 July 1944

Fierce fighting continues on both sectors of the Normandie battle front. There's hardly been a let up since the attacks began yestdrday morning -- and there has no slackening at all in the fimrce German resistance.

(Larry Lesueur /Charlie Shaw/ has just given you the latest picture of the fighting on the American front.)

Once again at ten o'clock this morning the American forces went over to the attack on the western flank of the line. They got close air support, but there was no bombardment on the scale that preceded the xxxxx first attack yesterday. -- The exact course of the fighting in this American sector is unclear. All we know is that the attack is on a wide front, and that so far gains up to 3000 yards have been made. We have crossed the St. Lo - Periers road at several more places. xx --- Everywhere German opposition has been strong. Onx the flanks there has been particularly heavy mortar and machinegun fire, and along the remainder of the line emplaced artillery and dug in xxxxxxx tanks have caused us trouble. Although yesterday's large-scale air attack with fragmentation bombs x killed and stunned a great many Germans, the troops and artillery that were well dug in were not seriously affected.

In the British sector the story this morning is that our allies have held their ground in the face of severe counter-attacks that continued all through yesterday. At xxxxxx places the Germans have put down artillery barrages and then sent infantry and tanks against the British and Canadian positions. Only at one point was there arx short withdrawal to the outskirts of the town of

Tilly la Campagne about five miles south of Caen. -- On this front all correspondents report that the Germans aren't short of anything They have plenty of infantry, abundant artillery with ammunition, mortars, machine guns/tanks -- and fighting spirit. -- The question occur immediately,- where do they come from? The answer is mainly that the discipline of the great German military machine has not cracked. The enemy is a master of the art of war and has been able to take advantage of terrain like weather and terrain not only to situate his defenses most favorably, but also to move reserves up to the threatened points. For instance, the crack 2nd SS Panzer Division has just been moved from the center of the Normandie front to the Caen area. --- Right now the British and Canadian artillery is slugging it out with the German artillery.

There's no doubt that the Germans are staking a lot on keeping the front in the west stable as long as they possibly can. And there are several good reasons for this-- the main one is that there is no other course. If withdrawal and disaster in the west were piled on to the crisis that faces the German command on every other front and at home, the entire situation might become impossible.

Goebbels is scheduled to make a speech this afternoon about total mobilization; and the German propaganda machine is doing what it did after Stalingrad -- using deliberate gloom to frighten the German people into more effort. But in London/we interpret the fact that it was Goebbels who was appointed to mobilize the last reserves as meaning that these last reserves don't consist of physical strength -- that's been used up in these five years of war. Hitler and the Nazis are out now to mobilize the last shreds of psychological staying power.

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CBS Hottelet 1500 26 July 1944

Brit. sector, inside Germany
(Pick up lead/and American sector from 1400 piece
no. 955)

This morning the German Labor Leader, Ley, called on the German people to develop a fanatical belief in their own strength and in the justice of their cause.

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This is confirmed by the fact that some of the officers in the revolt last week held key positions in the Ersatzheer - the army's base organization responsible for supplying weapons, ammunition and replacements to the fighting fronts. These men knew the innermost secrets of Germany's/available reserves --- and knowing them they decided to put an end to the war at the risk of their own lives. --- Why are the Nazis determined to prolong the war without any hope of victory? They want to gain time - time perhaps to bargain with one or the other of the allies; time in which some miracle or unpredicatble change in the situation might come to their help. ---- After all, the German rulers tried to do exactly the same thing once before. On October 17th, 1918/Ludendorff told the Kaiser that if the German people were to be mobilized for total support of the war, the army at the front could go on fighting at least for another two or three months. Ludendorff recommended that the war be continued rather than accept the Allied terms - and he gave as his reason the hope that something might happen - just as vague as that - something might happen to give Germany greater bargaining power. -- Three weeks later Germany signed the armistice.

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CBS Hottelet 25 July 1944 0045

For the fifth day now, the Germans have been successful in keeping even the basic facts of the General's revolt a pretty close secret. All we know of it is what the Nazis themselves have announced; and a few details that have leaked out in some statements. The rumor that's come from neutral countries around Germany hasn't been very helpful in drawing an intelligent picture.

It seems as if the first stage of active revolt were over. Hitler was not killed and The Nazi police machine moved in time. But the repercussions of this attempt -- the forces set in motion that will decide its longterm significance are operating - without a doubt. The picture the Nazis paint of complete calm and order inside Germany is just not credible.

This afternoon it was announced that two Generals, who were wounded by the bomb intended for Hitler, have died. They were General Guenther Korten, the Chief of the Air Staff and General Heinz Brandt, in the operations division of the General Staff. These men, and the other experienced officers in the armed forces who've lost their lives in this Putsch are not easily replaced with the military situation as critical as it is.

One interesting development this afternoon was Goering's order that all the Armed forces would henceforth give the Nazi salute in place of the ordinary military salute. This is not going to be very popular with everyone. But even the outward show of loyalty and solidarity is valuable now. The Nazis are still trying to keep on top of the situation by tricks like this -- and they've also announced that the Putsch would be used to put still

more civil mobilization measures across. The enemy certainly hasn't lost his skill yet.

But the end is certain for Germany Putsch or no Putsch. The steady development on the war fronts demonstrates that. And this evening the Russian radio issued a historic statement that sounded like Nemesis. Speaking in the name of the Russian sponsored Polish Committee of National Liberation Moscow called upon all Poles to rise. It promised them East Prussia, Pomerania and Upper Silesia and frontier posts on the River Oder only a few miles east of Berlin.

And Moscow Radio issued some decrees of this Polish Liberation Committee which give us the first outline of the sort of Polish state Russia wants to see on her west. It is not a communist state on the Russian model. Private property is respected; and a land reform program is ordered which gives the peasants all land of estates over ~~fifty~~ 124 acres, while compensating the landlords.

Moscow Radio specifically denounced the Polish Government in London as having no authority. It appears that, as far as Russia is concerned, the shape of events in Eastern Europe has been fixed.

On the French battlefront today was one of the quietest since D Day. The communique reports nothing from the ground forces. The weather cleared a bit in the afternoon and allowed our planes to bomb bridges and other targets behind the battle area.

D8

CBS hottelet 1500 24 July 1944

Adolf Hitler has just issued a special ~~announ~~ announcement from his headquarters thanking all those who sent him congratulations on his escape, and new pledges of allegiance. Hitler syays that the expressions of loyalty, came from all sections of the German people, from the Nazi Party and from the Army.

This new statement doesn't add anything to what we know. Like everything allowed out of Germany in the last few days it does nothing to give us a picture of what's really happening inside the country. So far there hasn't been one reliable eye-witness account from which to draw any sound conclusion about the course of the revolt.

But rumors continue to pour out of neutral countries in Europe. Most of them seem based on nothing much sounder than a good idea, or ~~[illegible]~~ hearsay. [There is talk of a great blood purge in which many hundreds have already been shot -- a purge directed mainly against the aristocracy endangering anyone with even a drop of blue blood in him. One report gives the number of Generals involved in the putsch as exactly fifty. Another says that the German financial wizard, Dr. Schacht, ~~has disappeared~~ and the German Youth Leader Baldur von Schirach have disappeared; and that former Foreign Minister von Neurath and other prominent people of the older school have been arrested.]

They may be true, they may not. It would be just as well not to accept any reports until they're confirmed. -- Our war correspondents at the front are trying to find the effect the Putsch has had in Germany by interviewing German prisoners of war. But this hasn't brought any clear picture, because while some prisoners are

delighted that someone tried to kill Hitler, others are indifferent, others even sorry; and most seem to think the war will go on.

The airtight censorship on news leaving Germany continues. On the one hand that's a sign that the Nazis have not lost control; but on the other it's an indication that they're still afraid they might. --- In any case noone knows better than Goebbels the consequences of giving us a clear idea of what's going on in Germany right now. / And he also seems to think that he would be running a risk by telling the German people exactly who was involved in the Putsch .. because so far the name of only one General has bn anncd.

There are still too many unknown quantities in the situation for us to make a sound formula. Some Army Commanders in the west and south have proclaimed their loyalty to Hitler; but as far as we know not a single General in the East has done so. Nor has a single General of the Army High Command, except newly appointed Guderian done so.

Another thing that makes it harder to draw an accurate picture --- if you go by the standard procedure of revolt --- is that we haven't heard yet of a single German diplomat abroad leaving the Nazi fold.

~~Meanwhile, on the Normandie front -- and in Russia and Italy~~

It does look as if the Nazis have weathered the first stage of this storm. Considering the immense power of the Nazi police machine that's not very surprising; but the considered opinion in London is that the revolt as such will be none the less fatal in its consequences. --- Prime Minister Churchill, who is not known for his over-optimism, seems to share that view. Just before coming back to England yesterday after a short trip to Normandie he called the Putsch in Germany a " deadly quarrel". He said that there were grave signs

of weakness in Germany. And his conclusion was that the war might come to an end sooner than we have a right to expect.

Meanwhile on the Normandie front -- and in Russia and Italy too -- there don't seem to be any visible effects of the putsch. In France a new SS General, Hitler's old bodyguard Sepp Dietrich, has taken command of ~~SS~~ an SS Panzerkorps. Only a few days ago it was learned that another SS General, Paul Hausser, had taken command of the Seventh Army. We don't know whether this is significant -- because Von Kluge and Rommel still retain command of all the forces in France.

There've been no major engagements in Normandie anywhere on the front in the last 24 hours. Only in two places was the relative quiet broken. On the western end of the front a German counterattack against our bridgehead over the Seves River retook some ground. And over on the eastern flank a British attack near Maltot gained some ground and took some prisoners in the face of stiff German resistance. --- The rain has stopped, and the ground seems to be drying out -- so there may be larger scale action before long. The Germans say that both sides have brought reinforcements to the front.

In the air ~~there is no activity reported~~ it looks as if weather were still hampering our planes in the battle area. But heavy bombers have been out in strength farther afield. The RAF dropped 2500 tons of bombs on Kiel last night; and the Germans report heavy bombers and fighters over western and southwestern Germany today.

War brings different people different things. It brought a seven year old boy in an English town quite a surprise over the week end. ~~He had the~~ Little Peter won a prize in the local Salute the Soldier contest -- the prize was a wedding ring and a special marriage license

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CBS Hottelet 1400 24 July 1944

There has still been no reliable eye-witness account of what is happening inside Germany. But the rumor factories in Sweden and Switzerland and Turkey are making up in wild speculation what we lack in the way of hard fact.

One report received in Turkey says that 50 German generals were involved in the actual revolt -- a story from Stockholm speaks of a great blood purge in which hundreds have been shot already, and in which every man who has a von in front of his name is in mortal danger.

The correspondents on the battlefronts are trying somewhat more logically to estimate the effect the Putsch has had in Germany by interviewing German prisoners of war. But here again you pay your money and take your choice, because the individual reactions have run the gamut from joy through indifference to downright regret that anyone would have wanted to kill the Fuehrer. --- Whatever they seem to feel the German soldiers are fighting just as well. And in the East, where disaster really seems to threaten the German Wehrmacht it's much more the work of the Russian Army than it is to internal collapse.

The airtight censorship on news leaving Germany continues. Which is a sigh on the one hand that the Nazis have not lost control; but on the other an indication that they're still afraid they might.

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so. Nor has a single General of the Army High Command, except newly-appointed Guderian done so.

Another complicating factor -- if you go by the procedure in previous revolts and putsches - is that we haven't heard yet of a single German diplomat abroad leaving the Nazi fold.

It does seem as if the Nazis have weathered the first stage of this storm. -- That had to be reckoned with; but it does not make the whole affair any less serious for them. Prime Minister Churchill, who is not addicted to ill-considered or optimistic statements, told troops in Normandie yesterday that there were "grave signs of weakness in Germany". He called the Putsch a "deadly quarrel", said the Reich was in a state of great turmoil. His conclusion was that the war might come to an end sooner than we have a right to expect.

Meanwhile, on the Normandie front, the fighting continues much as usual. There've been no major engagements there in the last 24 hours; but the minor ones there've been include German counterattacks. On our western flank the enemy attacked the American bridgehead over the Seves river and retook some ground. On our eastern flank a British attack around Maltot gained ground and took prisoners.

The weather seems better today, the ground is drying out a bit, and larger scale fighting may be resumed. Air activity over the battle field seems to be on a reduced scale still. But our heavy bombers are reported over southern and southwestern Germany today after a 2500 ton attack by the RAF on Kiel last night.

CBS Hottelet 1500 23 July 1944

There are /Three new facts to fit into the jigsaw puzzle of the German crisis this morning. The most important is that some of the Generals who joined the revolt to overthrow Hitler and make peace were on active service. -- So far Nazi propaganda has tried to make it appear that the officers involved had all been retired or dismissed before the revolt. --- Thisnew fact is contained in a message to the German Army this morning from General Guderian, the new Chief of Staff. In this message Guderian reveals that only some of the officers involved were on the retired list.

And this is confirmed by a German news agency correspondent in a dispatch on the overseas radio, who speaks of the revolt as the "Palace Revolution in the Bendlerstrasse". Now, the Bendlerstrasse is the street in Berlin on which the huge/building of the German High Command is located. Since the outbreak of the war, when the advance echelon of the General Staff moved into the field, these buildings have been occupied by the rear organization of the staff. Thisrear echelon controls supplies, administration -- and also has command of the Home Army which trains replacements for the fighting front. It's significant that Hitler's first act after the bomb explosion was to appoint Himmler as commander of this Home Army in place of General Fromm. There we have fact no. two : that some of the active officers involved were in the base organization of the General Staff. - By the way, I happen to know the German correspondent who ~~and fact number three was given~~ wrote that story; and I know that he's very well informed.

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PRESS AND CENSORSHIP BUREAU

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page two CBS Hottelet 23 July 1944

The third fact comes from Ribbentrop's spokesman at a foreign office press conference. He reveals that the plot wasn't just a community affair but that it was carefully organized under one leader, (whose position was high enough to command the support not only of the Generals involved in the plot but to command the support & respect of the people in averting chaos.) who was prepared to cope with the chaos that would have resulted from the death of Hitler.

So far and this is important this leader, and his collaborators in the plot, have not been named. And except for odd facts that inadvertantly slip through the German censorship, Germany is st ll cut off from the outside world.

Unconfirmed rumors and reports continue to pour in from Switzerland and Sweden, though; and now even from Moscow, which says thatthe city of Koenigsberg in East Prussia has been placed under martial law.

We don't know yet whether the Nazis have complete control over the situation everywhere. They might well have -- but their actions make it appear as if they were still very much afraid of the repercussions of the revolt, and are keeping full pressure on until the feel safer.

On the battle front in Normandie the weather has improved slightly, but not enough to permit any largescale operations. What local shifts there have been have been in our favor. Over on the western flank American troops have crossed the River Seves. And on the eastern flank British and canadian troops have repulsed several German counterattacks. By capturing the town of Maltot the British have eliminated the German salientbetween the Odon and Orne rivers.

Meanwhile the Germans keep saying that this lull is only temporary, and that we are preparing to mount a new offensive.

CBS Hottelet 0045 23 July 1944

The situation in Germany is still unclear. Reports from Sweden and Switzerland keep saying that the General's revolt has not yet been completely crushed. But it's admitted that these reports are based on snatches of information trickling out of the Reich - and on speculation. --- As far as direct, reliable news from Germany goes, the frontiers are still sealed airtight. Only couriers and handpicked airplane passengers have been allowed to leave.

And only German propaganda stories have been allowed to be sent out of the country. So far we know very little more about the actual facts in the case than we did yesterday. So far only the name of Colonel General Beck has been released as one of the conspirators. All other names of Generals have been kept secret. Here in London it's felt more and more that the reason for this secrecy is that the names are so respected as to be likely to rally support for the revolt if they were made known.

It's highly likely that the revolt has, by now been suppressed. And one or two German propagandists have claimed that this purge would strengthen the Nazi Party - the way the blood purge of 1934 did. But it's pointed out in London that this revolt comes after almost five years of war, at a time when Germany cannot afford upheaval. And also, that the reason for this revolt cannot be removed; because it results from realization that Germany has lost the war.

One lone propagandist, Goebbels' right hand man, Fritsche puts it quite accurately tonight when he said: " A thing lik

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this putsch and attempt on the Fuehrer's life in the fifth year of the war cannot have happened without its antecedents and cannot pass without its consequences."

In London the feeling is widespread that there will be grave consequences. And, although noone is counting on any immediate collapse, it's pointed out that the Armistice terms for Germany are ready and agreed upon by Britain, America and Russia; and that detailed preparations have been made to cope with such a contingency.

On the western front there is no indication that German resistance is any less determined than it was before the Generals' revolt. The heavy rains that kept up for 48 hours until thisx afternoon have bogged the whole battlefront down. There's been practically no air activity. But the Germans have not been deterred by the weather from mounting a number of counterattacks. They attacked the Canadians south of Caen and lost 13 tanks before they withdrew again. --- As far as the gxxxx offensive xx to the south and east out of the Caen area goes, we might as well accept the fact that it's come to a stop for the time being. Whether or not it will begin again in better weather is debatable, because the weather was only one factor. -- At any rate the Germans tonight say that what they call the British First Army is now preparing to begin another attack there.

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CBS   REPORT FROM LONDON   LEAD IN   CHERNOFF

HOTTELET: War Communiques are pretty impersonal things. they ~~deal~~ talkin terms of weight of armor, and artillery fire, and pincer movements. Occasionally they talk -- again in a completely impersonal way -- of losses, of casualties. You'd almost think that there was no particular personal interest in the rpice of human blood we're paying to win this war.

But if you thought that you'd be wrong -- dead wrong. ~~Because although~~ The army takes every possible precaution to keep people from being wounded; but it's when a man is wounded ~~that the army~~ - and of no more use in the cold military sense - that the army really begins to take care of him. It's warm care, of the sort you wouldn't expect ~~to find~~ would be possible in a wartime army.

~~War Correspondent~~ Howard Chernoff, War Correspondent and General Manager of the West Virginia Network just back fm Normandie has been around to some military hospitals, and has a lot to say about the deep impression they've made on him.

Go ahead, Howard.

;....................

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C B   REPORT FROM LONDON   LEAD IN CHERNOFF

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REPORT FROM LONDON CBS HOTTELET AND MATHIS 22 July 1944

Hottelet: Someday someone is going to sit down and write the full story of the contribution our air forces have made to the success of the invasion. And when he does you'll be hearing more than just the dead statistics of missions flown and weight of bombs dropped. More, even, than the difficulties we've had with the weather; and the trouble the enemy has given our fliers. .... ~~The story of air power is more than an account of the skill and gallantry our air crews and pilots have shown. It's true that, without the heroism of these men show when they drive on to the target through walls of Flak or their gallantry under attack by enemy fighters, without these qualities an air force wouldn't be much of a weapon. --- But~~ it's the weight of air attack that adds up to real air power - the combined effort of men who do a dangerous job day after day to bring the bombs to the enemy. A lot of them are lucky enough not to be shot up by flak; lucky enough not to have to come limping back with their ships riddled by bullets, and themselves maybe badly wounded. --- These men are just as much heroes, because they never know when disaster is going to strike them; and they keep on flying.

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One of these men is Staff Sergeant Paul Mathis of Bedford, Indiana, who's a tail gunner in a Ninth

Air Force Marauder. Paul has been flying B-26's since November 1942. He's flown more than 100 missions - 103 to be exact. That's more than any other man in the U.S. Air Force - certainly in the European Theater, has flown against the enemy in bombers. How does it come you've got so many, Paul?

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Mathis: Well, for one thing, I've been flying a long time. I started out with the 12th Air Force in the Mediterranean. ~~([illegible] was my first inv[illegible].)~~ I got in 52 missions down there before I went back home.

Hottelet: How much difference is there between flying here and down in the Mediterranean?

Mathis: There's quite a lot of difference. The main thing is the weather, of course. Down there you could be pretty sure that every day - or almost every day - was going to be good. Up here, well, - I don't have to tell you how rotten it's been in the last six weeks.

Another difference, too, is that the flak up here is a lot worse. Sometimes here you really walk into it. Down south the flak wasn't as heavy - and what there was wasn't as accurate. But, for some reason we met up with more enemy fighters over Sicily and Italy than we've seen over France.

Hottelet: I'll bet, though, there's as much trouble one place as the other. What's been your toughest trip out of all those 103?

MATHIS (cont): never made a bad landing, and we've never picked up more damage than a couple of flak holes. The pilot is Lieutenant Owen Reeder from Alabama; and the co-pilot is Lieutenant George Dornblazer of West Virginia.

But the man the ship is really built around is the bombardier. If he doesn't get his eagle eye on the target we might just as well not have run the mission at all. We've got a swell fellow who really knows his job - ~~he's a~~ it's Lieutenant E.G. Crouser. He's from West Virginia too.

And The other two gunners are a couple of eager beavers. They're so anxious to do some damage that they shoot at ground targets when we go in low. One of them's Staff Sergeant James Ray, from Memphis, Tennessee; and the other one's Staff Sergeant Ralph Bray from Tulsa, Oklahoma.

I guess if you want to know how I've flown 103 missions these boys are the answer. These fellows, and the others I've flown with — and any crew in the air force is a team. And it's teamwork and a little good luck that keeps 'em flying.

LEAD OUT REPORT FROM LONDON 22 July 1944

~~[illegible]~~

Paul, you've put it just about right. And it goes for much more than air warfare. It's the principle of teamwork that marks the difference between an army - a victorious army and a mob. It's teamwork in the way the men of the air force - or of the infantry or artillery work together in their own field.

And, as Howard Chernoff pointed out, it's teamwork in the way one part of the huge~~x~~, all-embracing army of ours helps the other. The people in one arm~~x~~ don't know the people in the other -- but they're ready to sacrifice their lives to help them out, if need be.

And, it's the same thing on a larger scale in this ~~xx~~ age of total war. It takes teamwork between the army ~~xxx~~ in the field ~~x~~ and the people back at home to win the game.

This is Richard C. Hottelet Reporting from London, returning you now to CBS in New York.

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LEAD OUT   REPORT FROM LONDON   22 July 1944

~~There you are~~

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Jul – 23d

US sect bogged down, mud rain, static today, slight act. near Lessay + SE Caumont

E flank – rain + 88 mm guns (mainly rain) created pause betw phase 1 & 2

Gers mention Brit 1st Army, say barrage betw Troarn + Orne bank S of Caen heralds new attack.
Canad hold ground in c/attacks

Fritzsche: A thing like this putsch + attempt on F life in fifth year of war cannot have happened without its antecedents + cannot pass without its consequences

Ger borders closed
no names yet

Air = no air today, 16000 tons bombs – mainly oil + on prod ct centers, US bombers alone

Lead Hottelet CBS 1500 21 July 1944

1100 American heavy bombers with strong fighter esc carried the air war to Germany today, attacking important industrial targets in southern Germany.

On the Normandie ground front there has been very heavy rain during the last 12 or more hours, and it's slowed down the oace of the fighting. There have been only local changes in our favor in the American and British sectors.

CBS Hottelet 1500 21 July 1944

~~The Germans have announced the name of the first offi general~~ The Germans have given the ~~first~~ name of the one of the Generals who tried to overthrow Hitler. He is Generaloberst Beck, a former Chief of the German General Staff. He was dismissed by Hitler in ~~Febr~~ 1938 at the time of great army shakeup. He has since been living in retirement. His is the first name to be made known, and sofar it's been broadcast only outside Germany by the German Overseas news agency. The agency says that he has been arrested.

There is no further word from inside Germany about Himmler's actions to smash the General's revolt. ~~Goebbels~~ The German radio has been broadcsting press comment from various parts of Germany designed to show that life is proceeding as usual, and that the revolt has been carried out by a tiny group without any popular support.

But reports -- based mainly on hearsay, to be sure -- came from Switzerland and Sweden this morning to the effect that fighting was going on in several places between SS forces and regular army troops. But we don't really know what's going on inside the Reich.

There can be no doubt though that the revolt of the General's has had a profound effect. It is apparent from the sweeping measures taken by Hitler, Himmler, Goering and Doenitz that the revolt extends far beyond just a small clique. They admitted ~~that~~ they were afraid that many officers were involved, and that a serious attempt would be made to disrupt the entire military structure.

So far the position of the Army, as such, in this revolt is unclear. We don't know whether the Generals who staged it were

all retired, or whether there were some active commanders involved. The only senior commander of the ground forces who's publicly reaffirmed his loyalty to Hitler thus far is General von Falkenhorst, the commander in chief in Norway. Apart from him only Guderian / the Inspector of Armored Tps has even been mentioned as siding with Hitler.

It may be that the revolt will be crushed by Himmler's powerful home forces. But the very fact that it occurred, and was led by Army Generals will remain important in the history of these next months. It is the first attempt at revolt since June 30 1934. But it's much different from the Blood Purge. The men who rebelled against Hitler at that time were adventurers, who wanted to seize power. It was gang war, not much more. The men who planned this revolt did it from much different motives. It is not thirst for power -- because power in a Germany that is moving toward certain defeat wouldn't mean very much. What moved these Generals was undoubtedly the realization that a hopeless war was being prolonged only because Hitler the Fanatic had the ability to prolong the bloodshed beyond any hope of restoring the situation. Getting rid of Hitler would probably stop the war.

Geebbels cannot label these Generals --/probably men whose names are famous in German military history -- he can't label them Jews or Plutocrats or even Defeatists. Too many average Germans have respected them too long; and too many men in the Army have obeyed and trusted them too long. It must be apparent to all that the reason these Generals acted was to end a hopeless and bloody

conflict. ----- So Hitler is doing two things to lessen the impact on the German people and reduce the danger of a general breakdown. He is withholding the publication of the names of the men involved until he feels certain that Himmler has the situation in hand; and he's trying to create the impression that the Generals were working hand in hand with the enemy. To prove this latter point, Rosenberg wrote an article in the Voelkischer Beobachter this morning saying that the revolt was geared with the Allied military offensive on the three land fronts and in the air. He called it an allied offensive on the German Home Front. ------- It would be flattering to us if this were true, but it's most probably not. It is a spontaneous movement inside Germany, and as such has much more importance.

Himmler may well succeed in crushing the revolt. Hitler may get the Army to continue fighting bravely for many weeks - the way it did after August 1918. But July 20th of this year will probably go down in history as the beginning of the end.

CBS Hottelet 1400 21 July 1944

Torrential rain on the Normandie front during the whole of the evening and night has slowed the pace of operations. ~~Thezairzfarzmxxxxx~~ There have been only local clashes and slight line adjustments along ninety miles of the front in which ~~xm~~ Allied forces have occupied five villages.

Air activity over the battle front his morning was nil -- but heavy bomber formations were over ~~xmxkxxx xxxxx~~ central and eastern Germany.

CBS Hottelet 1400 21 July 1944

Germany is still cut off from the outside world. The only news of what has gone on there in the last 36 hours has come from x Hitler and other sources loyal to him. These reports said at about three o'clock this morning that the revolt against Hitler had been crushed, and that the leaders had all committed suicide xx or been arrested or shot.

This morning Goebbels is making every effort to paint a picture of complete calm inside the Reich, and of universal x gratitude that Hitler's life was saved.

That is the Nazi side of the story. Meanwhile reports from Switzerland and Sweden speak of skirmishes between SS troops and regular army xxxx continuing inside Germany. But responsible quarters admit that most of these reports are guesses.

It is impossible to say exactly what is going on inside Germany xxxx right now. British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden admitted in the House of Commons this morning that he had no inside information. There can be no doubt that the revolt of the Generals has had a profound effect.xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx And from several indications it appears that it extends far beyond just a small clique. The first ones to reaffirm their loyalty to Hitler after the bomb explosion were Goering for the Air Force and Doenitz for the Navy. There was no mention of the Army -- but all concerned expressed the fear that many officers were involved and that systematic attempts would be made to disrupt the entire military structure. So far, up to noon today, only one senior Army commander has re-

affirmed his loyalty to Hitler - and that is Falkenhorst, the commander in chief in Norway.

General Seydlitz, the head of the Union of German officers in Moscow, broadcast to Germany today appealing to all German officers to take up arms against the Nazis, and to join with civilians and with the Catholic Church in overthrowing Hitler. He said that was their only alternative to being purged in a blood bath similar to June 30 1934.

Whether or not the revolt has been crushed by Him-mler's Home Forces is not known. In either case, the very fact that it was attempted is of profound significance. For one thing - it's the first spark of revolt. It's the first time that high Army officers have identified themselves with an active, public opposition to Hitler and the war. This will mean something to the average German. These opposition Generals cannot be shrugged off by Goebbels as Jews or Plutocrats or as Defeatists. They embody a long tradition that alone can provide a powerful opposition. That is probably why Hitler has not announced the name of a single senior officer involved in the plot. To announce names of men who've been respected and honored by the people, and obeyed and followed by millions of men in the army, might touch off a general breakdown.

The revolt may be crushed. Hitler may continue with the war for months. But July 20th will probably go down in history as the very beginning of the end.

CBS Hottelet 0045 21 June 1944

The biggest story in western Europe today is the attempted assassination of Hitler. For the second time since this war began an assassin has almost succeeded in killing the Fuehrer, and perhaps changing the course of history.

It is now seven hours since the Germans announced the bare fact that an explosive charge had injured Hitler and 13 of his collaborators. The German radio has since given no more information. We don't know when it happened -- although it was most probably last night. We don't know where it happened -- but it's a good guess that it was at his headquarters. ~~That would explain why members of his personal staff like generals Jodl, Schmundt and Bodenschatz were injured.~~ The location of Hitler's headquarters and its movement is a secret -- sometimes it's at Hitler's mountain chalet at Berchtesgaden. Most recently it's been reported at Loetzen in the Masurian Lake district of East Prussia.

But the location and the time aren't anywhere nearly as important as who did it and why. In the absence of any real knowledge the possibilities for speculation are unlimited. ~~It's pointed out, for instance, that none of the highest officers on Hitler's staff were injured.~~ It's strange that the explosive should have detonated near enough to him to have burned him supposedly only slightly. It was either a very strange explosion or Hitler is more seriously injured than Goebbels feels it advisable to admit.

Even without the answers to the most important questions in this case it can be said that the effect on the German people will be a profound one. In view of the elaborate secrecy an

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and protection that surrounds Hitler it must come as a shock to all Nazis and to the German people to hear Goebbels admit that a well organized plot against his life could come so close to success. --- It is highly unlikely that this was a one man job. The project reveals that determined, skilful and powerful forces are at work to get rid of Hitler that have easy access to the highest Nazi circles.

Perhaps the largest question of all remains open -- are these forces on the side of Allied victory, or are they only carrying out a cold political plan to perpetuate Hitlerism by making a martyr of Hitler.

On the western battlefront today brought no great changes. The British on the eastern flank consolidated their positions and gained further ground southeast of Caen. They met local counterattacks, but no great counterthrust. They are about five miles away from Caen at their deepest point of penetration.

On the American sector there was no movement. A local German counterattack forced us to withdraw 400 yards at one point west of St. Lo. Bad weather hindered air activity over the battle area - but light medium and fighter bombers carried out attacks on rail transport and fuel dumps.

They were doing on a tactical plane what our thousands of heavy bombers were doing on the strategic level this morning when they bombed mainly oil refineries and key manufacturing plants inside Germany.

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CBS Hottelet 0045 19 July 1944

The Battle for France is entering its second phase. General Montgomery's British and Canadian troops have broken through the enemy positions east of the river Orne; and followed up with armored and mobile forces. They are now in action against strong enemy forces in the open country southeast of Caen. The latest report from Normandie is that heavy fighting is still in progress. The Germans call it a battle of extraordinary violence, and say it is still growing in intensity.

Here in London we do not know exactly how far the attacking forces have pushed ahead. We do not know what their objectives are. But it is clear that, after fortyone days of building up their strength in the beachhead, General Montgomery's troops have lunged forward in a large scale operation to break out of that/ beachhead.

The only clue to the immediate course of the battle is the line in tonight's communique describing it as taking place southeast of Caen. Here is open country, tank country, giving Montgomery his first chance of using his armor on a large scale. And from reports reaching London he has poured enough tanks and selfpropelled guns into this breach to make this a big chance.

The greatest weight of air power ever concentrated on a battlefield paved the way for Montgomery's offensive. For two hours heavy, medium and light bombers struck at the German lines. Into an area about 15 miles long and five miles deep they dropped more than 7,000 tons of bombs. Enemy positions were pulverized, When the ground forces began to roll forward at about 7:45, the bomb line advanced with them; and light and medium bombers raced in to stab at German artillery positions, strong points and defensive concentrations. -- More than 2,200 planes took part in the initial attack, and our fighter bombers have not stopped flying since. The number of missions flown today over the battlefield alone is more than 6,000.

On the western flank of the Normandie front, General Bradley's forces have pushed into St. Lo. Fighting is still reported in the streets, and the Germans on the high ground to the south are pumping shells into it.

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CBS Hottelet 18 July 1944 1500

We have kept up our advance in Normandie, on both ends of the front. There have been no spectacular gains, but everywhere we've kept the initiative and taken ground that will be invaluable for attacking our main objectives. These objectives are still in German hands, and are being defended with crack troops.

Our gains have been most clearly marked in the American western sector -- in the Periers and St. Lo areas. It looks this morning as if some decisive move were imminent. The Germans have reported that we are attacking the town of St. Lo on a large scale from the west, northwest, north and east. They say our first army is using strong tank forces supported by heavy artillery fire, and fighters and fighter bombers attacking in waves. The Germans admit that several advanced positions had to be abandoned to our troops after bitter all night fighting, and that American forces had broken through at several points.

There's no confirmation in London of any large scale assault against St. Lo. It's more probable that general Bradley is keeping up his tactics of exerting steady pressure everywhere and driving through wherever the enemy cracks.

On the east of St. Lo our troops have taken Martinville, and there are reports that our advance forces are on the outskirts of St. Lo itself. Up to the northeast we're only a mile away now, and on the northwest this morning's communique reports mile deep advance south of Mesnil Durand. We're not only attacking the town, we're also attacking the roads leading into it.

A report this morning says that American engineers, by closing some locks in the River Vire that flows through the western fringe of St. Lo, have flooded some of the roads leading out to the south. And the infantry and artillery are doing their part along the important St. Lo - Periers road. It's reported that this road is already under close artillery fire from the north; and it's apparent that xxxxly our infantry is driving on to cut it at several points. They're within ly a thousand yards of it southwards of les Champs de Losque.

Up at the extreme right of our line, the Germans still hold Lessay, but our troops have penetrated across the River Ay, east of the town.

On the British front there's also been bitter fighting, and the British have not only maintained but improved their positions. Latest word is that the town of Noyers is again in British hands, after the capture of the Hamlet of Hauts des Forges last night. The fighting is fluctuating, and important positions have changed hands several times. Rommels fierce counterattacks have not been able to maintain any of their gains, though.

On both sectors of the Normandie front we are up against crack German troops. In the west the Americans are fighting tough paratroopx units reinforced by tanks. The excellent "Reich" division is in the line there. On the eastern flank there are also good divisions, again SS and regular army panzer troops reinforcing the infantry. There's a report that elements of all panzer units that have been on this front since D Day have been identified on the front facing us now. If this is accurate it demonstrates the German power of recuperation, and also seems to indicate that the German

High Command feels called upon to make a maximum defensive effort just at this time.

There's one technique in which the Germans have shown themselves particularly skilful, and that's in the handling of mortars. These are wicked little shortrange artillery, and the enemy seems to have them in enormous numbers. Whenever our troops move forward into a new position now, they automatically expect to be peppered with mortar fire.

There's been no word of Allied casualties since the period through June 20th. There's no doubt that the heavy fighting of the past weeks has cost us a good many men. But there's word this morning of German losses -- conservative word -- which shows how much higher the enemy's losses are. Since D Day he is said to have lost more than 123,000 casualties, which include 54,000 prisoners. And in tanks the Germans have lost 675 tanks, almost half of which were destroyed and the remainder damaged.

The news from the air war is good again today for a change. After the systematic air offensive against the German lines of supply behind the Normandie front yesterday, our planes are out in strength again today. This zone of blasted bridges and ploughed up roads and twisted railroad tracks is coldly known in military language now as the Zone of Interdiction. If today is a good day -- and there's no sense in prophesying even now at three o'clock in the afternoon that it will continue to be a good day -- our ground forces will be getting the kind of close support that might enable them to speed up their advance.

page four

Our heavy bombers were out against targets in Germany this morning -- bombing the air force laboratory at Peonemuende (the birthplace of the doodle bug) and other targets in north Germany. The German radio also reports attacks against Bavaria, which hitherto has meant the bombing of the railroad center of Munich.

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CBS Hottelet 18 July 1944 1400

Another night of fighting along most of the Normandie front has brought us further advances. Nothing spectacular -- the Germans still hold our main objectives -- but General Eisenhower's ~~xxx~~ communique this morning says that we have won important and commanding ground.

Clearest results ~~xxxx~~ are visible in the American sector, in the Periers & St. Lo areas. We've drawn closer to St. Lo all around a rough arc from west to east and it does look this morning as if some decisive move were imminent. -- ~~The Germans report a large scale assault against the town from west, northwest, north and east with strong tank forces supported by heavy artillery fire and fighters and fighter bombers attacking in waves.~~ The [illegible] says that several advanced positions had to be abandoned to our First Army after bitter all night fighting, and that American forces had broken through at several points. -- There's no confirmation in London of any particularly large assault.

It's more probable that General Bradley is keeping up ~~xxx~~ steady pressure, as he's done unrelentingly so far. We've noticed that he's shifted the weight of his attack from one point to another half a dozen times.... like a clever boxer on his toes, weaving in and out, jabbing.. jabbing and always crowding his opponent, always pushing him back. When the attack from the east, along the Bayeux - St. Lo has slowed down, word has come of advances ~~xx~~ on the west, ~~down toward the St Lo -Periers road~~; or from the north on the town itself. ~~Today we've pushed closer on both flanks, taking Martinville in the east and pushing dwon from Mesnil Durand on the northwest. And in addition the important St. Lo - Periers road~~

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is threatened farther over on our right. We're on the outskirts of St. Lo to the east, a mile away to the northeast, and not much farther away on the west. -- It looks as if it wouldn't take so very much longer.

In the British sector there has been more heavy, to and from fighting, clearing the Germans out of some high ground. A flash from the front says that the British are back in the village of Noyers, in addition to capturing Haut des Forges.

Everywhere our ground forces are facing crack German troops.

There is good news from the air front this morning. The weather began to improve yesterday afternoon, and in half a working day our airforces carried out some three thousand sorties against the enemy. Today the weather has remained favorable and -- unless it changes -- we might be able to put on one of our greatest air efforts since D Day. Already strong medium bomber attacks by Marauders and A 20's of the Ninth Air force have been caarried out against German concentrations in the British sector -- and more are on their way. --- Our heavy bombers were out in strength against targets in Germany again today. Strong Fortress formations hit the German air force experimental station at Peenemuende, and other targets in northern Germany. The enemy also reports our heavy bomber formations over Bavaria -- which in the past week has usually meant a heavy pounding for the railroad center of Munich.

I return you to C.B.S. in N York

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92
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

CBS Hottelet Admiral standby 2030 16 July 1944

British ~~[illegible]~~ forces which attacked on the eastern Normandie flank early this morning are now reported fighting on the outskirts of the town of Evrecy -- their first main objective. It seems as if it's more accurate to speak of this ~~[illegible]~~ movement as an attack than an offensive, because the objectives seem fairly limited. It looks as if General Montgomery is trying to widen his base between the Odon and Orne rivers in preparation for more extended operations to come.

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Over on the western end of the Normandie front General Bradley's American forces have also been making steady progress. This afternoon they're reported to be within a mile and a half of the center of St. Lo -- and are fighting their way closer in from the east. Dodging from ~~[illegible]~~ square to square of the hedgerow checkerboard country in which they're fighting ~~[illegible]~~ our soldiers have captured more ~~[illegible]~~ high ground ~~[illegible]~~ close to the town. The battle for St. Lo is also going on to the north of the town, where we've pushed forward on a 2,000 yard front, and to the northwest. --- But it's not right to speak of the town as being encircled. St. Lo's importance, as an anchor point of the German line, is that it has seven good roads leading into it. They're all within range of our artillery, but they're not all cut, and the Germans have ~~[illegible]~~ continued to bring reserves ~~[illegible]~~ in here to keep up their bitter resistance. --- The Germans report this afternoon that many hundreds of American batteries are keeping German positions there ~~[illegible]~~ under artillery barrage, and they say that this is the prelude to a new attack.

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95
PRESS SECTION
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

* * *

[illegible]

On the Cherbourg peninsula coast there seems to be some doubt as to who has Lessay. The latest word is that the Germans have pulled out of the town, but hold the heights around it and have kept us from moving in anything larger than patrols.

Over the Normandy battlefront a 600 foot cloud ceiling practically closed down air operations -- but Marauders of the Ninth air force attacked German positions in the St. Lo area, and some bridges. They bombed through cloud. And this is the first time it's been revealed that Marauders now use that technique. It's announced today, also for the first time, that Marauders have been operating at night. That B-26 is a very versatile aircraft.

The big bombers -- about a thousand of them -- bombed the German communications centers of Munich, Saarbruecken and Nuremberg this morning. And on the way home their 500 escorting fighters came down to the ground to do some low-level strafing of railroads and airdromes. Twelve of our bombers and three fighters are missing.

A strange story comes this afternoon from the headquarters of Fieldmarshal Von Kluge, who commands the German armies in the west. In an interview with a German war correspondent he promises to strike blows against us that we'll remember as long as we live. He said he had made remarkable comebacks from accidents and from wounds in this war; and thought he'd make just as good a military comeback. He said he now felt himself in full possession of his old strength for the last round with General Eisenhower.

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PRESS CENSORSHIP
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

6.49

CBS Hottelet 0045 16 July 1944

The American forces on the extreme right flank of the Normandie front have pushed forward and now hold the line of the River Ay and the River Seves. Here they're on the outskirts of the town of Lessay. The Germans ~~xxxx~~ report a withdrawal between the town and the Seves marshes to the east. The ground here is flooded and the going is difficult just as such. But over on the eastern flank of this particular sector we've pushed a mile and a half over the Seves River closer to Periers.

The main point of fighting in the American zone is still around St.Lo. Here we've fought our way forward about five hundred yards at several points -- and five hundred yards is good progress when you consider the circumstances. We haven't launched any great counterattack here, by the way. It's been steady, heavy pressure. The Germans obviously intend to hold this town, which is logical because its the key point of their lateral communications and an anchor point of their line. Theyve brought reserves up here - both infantry and artillery and have turned farmhouses and odd buildings into fortified points. Just one little sign of their determination to hold on is the fact that theyre using their precious 88mm ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ ammunition against our little artillery spotting planes. --- Like shooting ducks with a 37 mm cannon. --- And if the enemy werent trouble enough, heres the sort of country we're up against around and to the west of St. Lo --- ~~xxxxx~~ it's mostly tight little fields, some not more than 40 yards square. These are surrounded by a deep ditch and then a bank about five feet high. The bank is ~~xxxxxxx~~ topped by thick hedge - more tree than hedge -- beyond ~~xx~~ which is another deep ditch or a sunken lane. It spells misery for the infantry and even more for the tanks.

Over on the western end of the x front General Bradley's American forces have also been making steady progress. As far as we know in London they're still on the outskirts of Lessay. East of that town they're clearing the enemy xxx off the north bank of the Taute River. --- The force that's pushing down alongside the Carentan road toward Periers has advanced 3,000 yards from the village of Auxais.

Our troops are still fighting around St. Lo, making slow but consistent gains. West of the town they're about a mile from xxx cutting the big St. Lo-Periers road. Their nearest point to the town is still just under two miles away -- that's on the east.

Although xxx xxxxxxx unfavorable weather is xxx hampering our AF on the battle front, American heavy bombers coming from the west and the south have hit at Germany again xxxxxx xxxxx this morning. Very strong forces of Forts and Liberators bombed communication / in Munich for the fourth time in six days, and also hit the rail center of Saarbruecken. The Germans report that another force of heavies coming up from the south bombed Vienna. -- Over xxx over Germany weather was bad, and bombing was done through cloud.

Allied troops in France never lost sight of xxxxxxx their position xx as a liberating army, and xxxxx they do more than fight the enemy. Right now, while the main attention is concentrated on military victory, they've found time to prepare to help the French in Normandie reap the grain harvest. Burlap bags and string have been imported xxxxxxxx, and soldiers will help with the actual work.

grs Hottelet 1500 16 July 1944

British forces in the Caen area of the Normandie battlefront are on the move again. It's too early to say whether it's an offensive, or an attack with limited objectives paving the way for a much larger operation. At any rate it has so far gone very well.

The center of the fighting is seven or eight miles southwest of Caen. At nine forty-five last night the British started to move forward, using Hill 112 as a springboard. The direction was again southwest --- the objective the town and high ground of Evrecy, about two miles away. The attack began without artillery preparation, to preserve the element of surprise; but as soon as it got under way one of Montgomery's heavy barrages pounded down on the German positions. By eleven thirty the infantry had overrun the town of Esquay and by two o'clock this morning they had reached and taken Hill 113 on the high ground dominating Evrecy. (The numbers of these hills, by the way, comes from their height on the general staff maps. 113 means the hill is 113 meters high.) --- But the attack wasn't finished. At 5:30 this morning a second British force began to push toward Evrecy from the north. It came across the Odon, took the village of Gavrus and is now on the outskirts of the village of Bougy, a mile or so to the north of Evrecy. There is no word yet of the extent of German opposition, from first reports it doesn't seem to have been very heavy.

This is the way the German High Command communique distorts the picture. It says: Violent British night attacks against German hill positions SW of Caen collapsed with heavy losses for the enemy.

But all this woe is not an alibi. We're doing all right. And we've got that testimony from some experts. Three high Russian air force officers visiting Normandie for the first time looked around the American sector and said they were satisfied with what they saw. They were struck by the gigantic amount of men and material we have in France; and said it wouldn't be long before we broke out of the beachhead and seized more territory. --- For our part in London, we're not saying what is or is not going to happen, but the Germans tonight are also ~~saying that~~ talking as if they were expecting something big.

The day in the air has been disappointing once again. Low clouds kept our mediums and heavies away, but it just made our fighter bombers go in lower. Some of them today went in at tree top height to bomb tactical targets behind the battlefield, and to strike at railroads and marshalling yards west and south of Paris. --- There's one indication tonight of how disorganised the French transport system is. A trainload of Allied prisoners of war bound for Lisbon, and an international exchange, has not arrived at the Spanish frontier. It's now almost a week overdue and the Germans say they don't know where it is. It's apparently been lost in the general confusion.

CBS Hettelet 0045 15 July 1944

News of battle - and of progress - comes mainly from the American end of the Normandie front~~x~~ tonight. Here General Bradley's forces have been pushing ahead at various points along their 46 mile line. There's been no ~~[illegible]~~ dramatic victory, the going has been tough and our main objectives in this area are still in German hands. [But there has been dogged progress - and the Germans report that their panzer grenadiers and antitank units have been pushed back in hand to hand fighting with the American troops.]

We're still some [illegible]

~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ The frontal assault on St. Lo ~~xxxxx~~ does not seem to have died down, and in addition fighting continues on both flanks, ~~[illegible]~~ at one point [illegible] eastward between there and [illegible], where ~~xxxxxxx~~ we've pushed across the main road and been driving south. And ~~xxxxxx~~ also ~~xx~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ north west ~~xxxxxxxx~~ where we're heading toward the lateral road connecting the town and Periers. ~~If we cut this road~~ it will be one step further to isolate St. Lo, and will seriously ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ hamper German movement.

We're still some 3½ miles away,

Elsewhere on this American front we've also pushed ahead. On the extreme west we are now reported to be 2000 yards from Lessay after an advance of about a mile in the last 24 hours.

~~xxxxxx~~ On the eastern flank in Normandie the British front has been quiet all day except for excahnges of mortar and artillery fire. There has been no change in the front there.

Everywhere in Normandie, but particularly around Caen and St. Lo the Germans seem determined to hold their ground. Where they've given way it's been in the face of our heavy pressure. But both at St Lo and Caen they've brought up reinforcements. There are

At [illegible]

[illegible] now ~~some twenty-five~~ identified German divisions along the entire hundred mile front. They are not all full divisions - that is, some are elements of divisions still on the move up to the front, some are remnants of beaten divisions and only the remainder are at full strength. It is nevertheless a formidable force.

The enemy is not only fighting with what strength he can muster, he is also fighting with his head -- which is to be expected of an army that's been in the field for five years. Over at Colombelles, east of Caen one of the first things the Germans did yesterday when they pushed the British out, was to destroy a water tower and three tall factory chimneys in the town, which would be useful/to us as observations posts when we again advance there. And over on the American front, we have found ~~xxx~~ skilful demolition work and have taken very few prisoners.

Even in the air the Germans showed today that they haven't lost their aggressive spirit. Small, very small, formations of their fighter planes swooped down to strafe our ~~rear~~ roads in the rear.

We have, as usual sent our aircraft out to bomb German targets despite the interminably unfavorable weather. Marauders, A - 20's and Liberators were out to bomb bridges and railroads at Amiens and west of Paris.

CBS Hottelet 0045 14 July 1944

The tide of battle is still high on both ends of the Normandie front tonight. On the western flank it favors the American forces. On the eastern flank the Germans have managed to inflict setbacks on General Montgomery's East of Caen British troops. ~~It was announced at SHAEF tonight that an enemy counterattack had forced British troops out of the towns of Colombelles and St. Honorine, on the eastern bank of the Orne just northeast of Caen. And~~ the Germans claim that their defenses extend around to the west of Caen too, and that there they've retaken the town of Eterville and the important hill number 112. At SHAEF tonight there's no comment at all on this claim.

Censored

On the western flank, in the American sector the news continues good. It's of slow shoving forward on a pretty wide front. Over on the extreme west we've pushed farther south toward L'Essay. And on to the left, east of Periers we've penetrated through the Hommet forest and reached the road near Hommet d'Arthenay. This puts us closer to St. Lo than we had been at Le Desert in this same sector. -- Over on the eastern ~~xxxx~~ side of St. Lo American forces have also made further gains along the Bayeux-St. Lo road near La Barre de Semilly.

Up until late this afternoon it looked as if the air picture of the fighting in Normandie was going to be disappointing. The base of the clouds was down to 2000 feet, and at some places as low as 300 feet. By mid-afternoon comparatively few missions had been flown. Later tonight Columbia's Bill Downs reported from ~~xxxxxx~~ the British sector in Normandie that he had

seen intense air activity in one sector of his front. -- That's the way the tactical air war is, catch as catch can.

Tonight is the eve of the French Fourth of July, the day commemorating the Fall of the Bastille. General Eisenhower told Frenchmen tonight in a broadcast over the American Broadcasting Station in Europe that he was proud to have American soldiers celebrating with them on French soil; and saluted those courageous French men and women who were fighting on the side of the Allies.

As General Eisenhower was speaking, his headquarters again issued a warning to fishermen on the west coast of Europe to stay on shore unless they wanted to endanger their own lives and the progress of military operations. The warning renewed previous admonitions and extended them until July 27th.

~~Withxthisxthexxkenixgxanzazxanaxadzinxxhaxxxxxxy~~

The news comes tonight from Russia that Vilna has been taken. So far events behind the German front in that part of the world have been kept secret, but from reports reaching London it now appears as if the Germans are preparing to evacuate ~~xxxx~~ the civilian population from East Prussia and that they have already begun to move civilians westward out of the city of Koenigsberg.

CBS Hottelet 1400 13 July 1944

The storm center of the fighting in Normandie has shifted to the American sector, but the British forces at the other end have had to meet more counterattacks.

Over on the western flank General Bradley's forces have been making good progress toward their immediate objectives - the towns of Lessay, Periers and St. Lo. The most important of these xxxxx is probably St. Lo - with its radiating roads that would xxxxxxxxx improve our xxxxxx communications, especially laterally along the front. The Germans ~~probably have the same idea, because their~~ attempts to hold us up have been particularly fierce in this sector. They have at least two armored divisions, and special troops like multiple mortar battalions both sides of Periers. ~~It was between Periers and St. Lo that they seem to have xxxx sent their infantry in with tanks to xxxx hold the village of Le Desert, but according to latest reports American troops are firmly in there.~~

Our patrols were this morning reported to have penetrated into the outskirts of St. Lo and to be within two miles of the town in strength. To the east of the town they've advanced across the St. Lo - Bayeux road at La Boulaye, and have pushed on almost a mile farther south. Up to the north of the town we're also only about two miles away.

South of La Haye, and southwest of Carentan American forces have also been making progress. The Germans admit that they have had to xxxxxx withdraw there. The Germans say that entirely new formations have arrived direct from America and England to reinforce our first army xx on this front. --- There is xx of course no comment in London as to whether this may be true or not.

Advancing ~~over~~ past the Foret de Montcastre, which was fought for so bitterly, American troops are now scaling Hill number 92, beyond which lies flat country and the next objective of Lessay only about three miles away. The left flank of these forces has now almost joined hands with our troops pushing southwestwards from Carentan to attack Periers. --- We can see how various individual parts of the whole picture are coming together into a harmonious whole. And there's one particularly important fact to emerge out of this advance -- it is that General Bradley's men have now pretty well gone beyond the marshy ground that has hampered their operations.

Off on the eastern flank British troops have reoccupied the town of Maltot, and held the town of Eterville in the face of counterattacking German armor and infantry.

~~Our~~ American heavy bombers ~~are~~ WERE out in strength again this morning. ~~[illegible]~~ the industrial and communications center of Munich has been heavily bombed for the third day in succession. This follows up last nights heavy RAF attacks on communications centers in France.

There's no word yet this morning of the extent of our air activity over the battle front.

(American heavy bombers were out in very great strength this morning. They bombed Munich heavily, for the third day in succession, and also struck at communications at Saarbruecken in W. Germany.

CBS   Hottelet   1500   13 July 1944

American forces/in Normandie were this morning threatening the key towns of Lessay xxx Perriers and St. Lo. Although the Germans were trying hard to hold them up, our forces kept moving down until they were xx only a few miles from each place. And more than that, xx there were signs this morning that two of our spearheads- the onex driving southwards from the La Haye district, and the one pushing on southwestward from Carentan - were about to join up. So far the marshy ground and the extensive areas the Germans have flooded, have forced General Bradley to operate with about three different columns on this western flank of the Normandie battle front. On the west we've now mainly passed the flooded ground and the front here begins to look more like a xxxxx solid front extending in a semicircle for about forty miles from south of La Haye to St Lo. --- Fighting is going on all along that front. But it's at St. Lo that we can probably expect the first developments. xx Latest reports from the front are that our patrols have rushed forward into the outskirts of the town, with the main body of our forces not far behind.

Over on the eastern flank there has also been bitter fighting, although perhaps not on quite so large a scale - and without the ground gains the Americans have to show. British troops here have had to meet counterattacks xxxxxx by German armor and infatry. They held their ground at all points, and even recaptured the town of Maltot, southwest of Caen.

There's no word from the battlefront yet of how the weather has developed. At any rate there's no reason to believe that it's substantially improved. But there's no doubt that despite

lowlying clouds and poor visibility, our tactical air forces will be out there helping the infantry again today. These men have had to develop an entirely different technique of bombing in the past month. Instead of operatng from well laid out bases in England with most of the comforts of home, they moved over to advanced landing grounds and air strips in France built with almost incredible speed after the invasion. From here our fighter bombers and rocket carrying fighters have been out every day helping the men on the ground. Sometimes the weather report has come back to us in England and we've shaken our heads knowing very well that no kind of effective ground support was possible under those conditions; and then that evening has come the word, of the fliers on the far shore have flown hundreds of missions. They've either taken advantage of momentary breaks in the weather, or have received such urgent calls for help that they went out to do their job no matter what.

You can get ~~some~~ an idea of the work the airforces have done in western France since D Day from some figures put out by SHAEF last night. Since June sixth - in their campaign against German communications targets, our heavy, medium and light bombers have attacked almost 700 different targets in the rear of the front. They've attacked 313 bridges, made 103 attacks on railroad centers - hit airfields, road crossings, barge canals, radar listening posts and many more. This doesn't include the innumerable single operations against purely ground support and individual objectives like tanks and fuel dumps, and German headquarters.

The effect of this systematic offensive can be seen

in the absence of a great, concerted German counteroffensive.

The enemy's only hope waxxxm of seriously interfering with our invasion was quickly to concentrate reserves at the vital spot, and strike out at us in a great counteroffensive. He was not able to do this, he was not able to move his reserves from point to point fast enough to meet our threat. And even now, he has been able to mount counterattacks only at one or thex other end of the front, but not along its whole length. Xxxx The whole front is only about 100 miles long now, so it's not that the distance is too great. It's that our air forces have made it impossible to bring up enough strength to carry out an all out offensive.

This work is not yet over. Last night heavy RAF bombers went out against two key railroad centers in France. One of the targets was Tours - a junction on a main line to Normandie. And another attack was at Culmont - Chalindrey, about halfway between Paris and the German frontier, where reinforcements and supplies coming from Germany are distributed over the various railroad lines leading to the battle area.

This bombing of communications, as you see, doesn't restrict itself to the immediate rear of the front.

This morning xxmxm x American heavy bombers were out in very great strength once again to bombx mainly communications targets deep inside Germany. They bombed Munich heavily for the third day in succession. Munich is the main communications point in southern Germany. And our fortresses and Liberators hit Saarbruecken this morning too - xxx one of the main railroad centers in western Germany. The farther back we disorganize their transport the more disorganized it'll be.

CBS Hottelet 1400 12 July 1944

The latest word from the Normandie front is that Rommel has stopped counterattacking in the Caen area, between the Odon and Orne rivers. -- It's too soon to say whether this is a breather in the terrific fighting that's been going on there, or whether the Germans have been forced to break off and revert to a more passive defense. -- One thing we do know is that German losses in this area have been extremely heavy. [Reports have come in of battalions having been reduced from 1000 to 250 men in the last two weeks, and of companies with only 30 or 50 men left out of 150. This morning a British correspondent reports that 50 German tanks have been put out of action in the last 48 hours between the vital hill 112 and Eterville near Caen; and that a panzer grenadier regiment has been destroyed.]

Before Rommel broke it off, the German series of counter-attacks had tried to win back the high ground before the Odon and the Orne, and to keep the British from outflanking Caen. This purpose was not achieved, and - though the British were able to advance only slowly, they did advance. They moved farther forward around the east of the town of Caen, taking a hamlet called Colombelles. But to the west of Caen the Germans have kept hold of the towns of Louvigny, Maltot and Athis. The British retain the important Hill 112 and the town of Eterville, but have some hard fighting ahead of them before they get into position to push eastward across the Orne river.

Looking west along the front from the Caen area the British have made some gains near Hottot; but there's no large scale fighting until you get to the St. Lo sector, where American troops keep up their steady pressure. On this part of the front this morning's communique says we've captured Pont Hebert, a hill about three and a half miles northwest of St. Lo. And a correspondent from the front this morning reports that off to the east of the town our troops have advanced two miles to bypass and isolate the German garrison at St. Andre de L'Epine, just north of the St. Lo - Bayeux highway.

It's much too soon to speak of any threatened encirclement of St. Lo, but we can see already that we're prepared to go after it from both sides.

In the other main American sector - west of Carentan, American troops have advanced also. From Carentan we've pushed on along the road to Periers, and we've also moved southward from La Haye du Puits toward Lessay and have reached Anneville sur Ay about three miles south of La Haye.

The weather - which is usually the gloomiest item in the days report - seems (a very uncertain seems) to be slightly better today. But it's still cold in France - cold enough for the British soldiers to be wearing their overcoats, and the Americans to wear winter uniform.

The only definite word of air activity today comes from Germany where strong American bomber formations have been reported over Franconia and Bavaria.

CBS Hottelet 1500 12 July 1944

After fortyeight hours of fierce ~~counterattack~~ fighting, Rommel now seems to have called off his counterattack. His losses have been very heavy, and he has managed to keep the British forces from taking up positions on the west bank of the Orne south of Caen - but he did not succeed in bringing Montgomery's advance to a complete standstill. -- To the east of Caen the British were able to advance around Colombelles, where the German counterattack had been fiercest. But to the west of the town the British success was a defensive one, in that it allowed them to hold the vital hill 112, and the town of Etterville and to inflict severe punishment on the Germans. The enemy for his part was able to HOLD the villages of Louvigny, Althis and Maltot; and to keep the British away from the western bank of the Orne. Our Allies have some hard fighting ahead of them before they push eastward across the river.

When German losses are described as heavy, it's not just a phrase. There have been reports of battalions having lost three quarters of their strength in the last two weeks, and of companies with only 30 or 50 men left out of 150. This morning's communique also tells of what might well be the biggest single series of airplane-tank battles ever to be fought. Yesterday our aircraft destroyed 28 enemy tanks and damaged 16 others. Fighter bombers destroyed and damaged 31 tanks in the American sector between Lessay and St. Lo, while rocket-firing aircraft got another thirteen on the British right flank.

We'd do well to wait, though, to see whether the end of the German counterattack today doesn't just mark a temporary breathing spell.

Over on the western flank in Normandie the Americans are keeping their steady pressure toward St. Lo and down the western coast of the Cherbourg peninsula. The German High Command this afternoon reports that we have made some brwaches in the German lines around St. Lo in which battles are still going on. So far, the nearest we've gotten to the important road and rail junction of St. Lo is about three miles. That's to the east, where a correspondent says we've advanced two miles to bypass and isolate the German garrison of St. Andre de L'Epine, just north of the St. Lo - Bayeux highway.

But our communique this morning also puts us within about the same distance from St. Lo to the northwest, where our troops have taken the hill of Pont Hebert. It's much too soon to speak of any encirclement of St. Lo, but we can see already that we're prepared to go afterit from both sides. The going won't be easy. We'll be moving over hilly country all the way, and against an enemy who is fighting well.

In the other main American sector - west of Carentan, we've also advanced. From Carentan itself we've pushed farther southward along the road to Periers. And we've also moved on to the south from La Haye du Puits.

There's no specific word yet of the air situation in France today. The hope was expressed earlier, though, that the weather might be better. -- Meanwhile the heavy bombers went out to Germany this morning. The German radio reported strong forces in southwestern Germany - in Franconia and Bavaria.

But there's another story of courage + kindliness from the war front

this morning. A British chaplain ~~walked through~~ ~~xxxxx~~ in Normandie went to visit an advanced dressing station located in the hospital among the ruins of Caen. The hospital is in charge of nuns. One of the nuns took the chaplain aside and told ~~x~~ him that some wounded British soldiers had died in that hospital after the Battle of France in 1940. The nuns hadn't wanted to turn the personal effects of these men over to the Germans. They gathered them together and labelled them neatly and saved them for the day the Allies would come back. -- Now they were turning them over to the chaplain to send to the soldiers' wives and relatives in England.

In England Lord Halifax took place in the House of Lords this morning as the Earl of Halifax .... And the doodle-bugs have kept coming over, but - I'm very glad to report - in much smaller numbers. For the second night in succession we didn't have any at all in London last night. The execution of a German spy this morning. --~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ focussed on a ~~xxxx~~ vital, but generally concealed part of the war. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ This man was a Belgian quisling, trained by the German espionage service, and sent to England posing as a Belgian patriot who wanted to help his country. He came to England in February of this year and was caught before he could do any damage whatsoever. -- When this war is over some of the details may~~x~~ be released of the superb work the counter-espionage authorities have done in Britain since the war began. It'll be a fascinating story.

CBS Hottelet 1500 10 Huly 1944

The Germans are trying to stand and fight at both flanks of the French battlefront, and it's only by keeping up the pressure and not pausing a moment that British and American troops have kept up the advance. Even so the ground gained has not been large anywhere, and every little hedgerow-bordered field has been a slugging match of its own.

After the capture of the town of Caen, the British forces have stopped at the Orne river. But, farther to the east, other British formations have kept the heat on. Since early this morning they've been attacking there in the southeastern tip of the salient they hold across the river Odon. From reports available here so far they've made progress of more than a thousand yards and have taken a hill dominating the town of Esquay.

As far as future progress in this sector is concerned it's probably wiser not to speculate. Looking at a map it may seem that the British are on the verge of breaking out south of Caen into some fine, flat tank country. But this war isn't being fought on a map - it's being fought over difficult country, and against a tough enemy. -- It's also easy to speculate about the use we could make of the inland port of Caen, which ranked number seven in France for freight turnover, -- but so far German guns still cover the inland port, and the chances are the Germans did their usual demolition job before they pulled out. --- Just as a sidelight ON that, a report in this morning tells that work is still going on day and night to restore the port of Cherbourg, which we've had in our hands for two weeks now. Not only that, but German snipers are still being

rooted out of houses here and there in the city.

West of Caen, ~~along the stretch of front to~~ BETWEEN THERE AND the St. Lo area there's intermittent fighting on a smaller scale. American forces pushing on the St. Lo, though, are meeting stern opposition. This has prevented them from advancing farther to the south. But they've nevertheless strengthened and widened their bridgehead across the Vire river. The southwesterly and southeasterly limits of this bridgehead are marked by the villages of Le Desert and Cavigny.

On the extreme western flank there is also heavy fighting southwest of Carentan and south of La Haye du Puits. Our progress here has been slow, and the Germans are holding on doggedly.

The air force has continued to give all possible help to the ground troops, but have been hindered by bad flying weather again. They flew about three and a half thousand sorties despite that, but had to indulge in aerobatics to get that many in. One formation of rocket firing typhoons came in about ten feet over the heads of a canadian outfit to blast enemy positions only fifty yards ahead of their lines. -- And last night Mosquitoes caught some German reinforcements as they tried to cross the Seine on pontoon bridges and ferries under cover of darkness. Visibility was so poor that some planes of the formation couldn't see that target and went on to bomb their secondary objective.

There's no doubt that the Germans are fighting well all along the front, and the incredibly bad weather of the past months has given them the chance to bring up reinforcements and supplies on

a scale that would have been impossible if our air superiority had been able fully to assert itself. --- In looking at the Normandie fighting it should be borne in mind that we've been on the offensive ~~xxx~~ since we landed, and that we're still on the offensive. The present slow going is disappointing, but is not expected to characterize all the rest of the fighting in France.

~~xxxx~~ Reports have reached London that the Germans are already making ready for any eventuality. According to these reports - which are quite plausible, but not confirmed - the enemy has given the province of Alsace the status of ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ zone of communications. This transforms it into an ~~xxxx~~ military rear area, and gives the military authorities much wider ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ powers necessary in an operational zone. Alsace will not have occupied this position since the campaign in the west in 1940. ----- ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ And it's reported - apparently from the same source-that the Germans have also declared East Prussia a zone of communications under the threat of the Russian advance, and have begun to issue orders for the evacuation of civilians and for military demolition there.

There doesn't seem to be much similarity between the present position of East Prussia and that of Alsace. But it ought to be worth watching whether this report is true.

CBS Hottelet 1400 10 July 1944

Heavy fighting continues at both ends of the Normandie front today, and we're having to ~~[illegible]~~ HIT hard ~~fxx~~ every ~~mixx~~ bit of the way. One Correspondent, describing the German position in the Caen area, says -- the Germans have suffered severe losses, ~~but~~ They have withdrawn in good order to new positions. They are not in retreat. ---- This seems to hold good for the ~~whole of the front.~~ American sector too.

The town of Caen has been technically captured. Technically, because we only hold the greater part which lies north of the river Orne and because the portion south of the river is now considered a suburb. ~~Rxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ There is still some doubt as to whether ~~xxxxx~~ the British have taken the bridges leading across the river -- bridges which would be invaluable in pushing ahead, even though the river Orne is only about 125 feet wide at that point.

Just to the west of Caen the situation is confused. There has been constant fighting there, without any appreciable ~~x~~ change. This morning the British started a new attack in the southeastern portion of their bridgehead across the ODON. ~~x~~ Word has come in that they so far have advanced more than a thousand yards on a 5,000 yard front. -- The Germans now also have a bridgehead across the Odon, only theirs is on the north bakk - a salient they're left holding after the entry into Caen. That leaves the British and the German forces outflanking one another with their interlocking salients -- a situation which fully reflects the toughness and determination on both sides.

Looking westward along the battlefront from here, there'd no largescale fighting until we come to the western sector, where

American troops are slowly pressing toward St. Lo. Our bridgehead over the Vire river here has not been pushed any farther south toward St. Lo, but it has been widened and strengthened. -- In the Carentan sector our troops have advanced another half mile, which puts them about five miles from the town of Periers.

And around La Haye du Puits it's much the same thing - our forces inching forward, slugging their way along, earning every yard. We've now moved through the town and are about two thousand yards to the south of it. But the enemy still holds the important Mont lecastre on our left - and not only is he not pulling out of there, a report this morning says that he has even counterattacked th [illegible] and slightly improved his position.

The weather favored the enemy again yesterday, and seems to be about the same way today. Low clouds and poor visibility made it hard for our fliers. Even so they flew some 3 and a half thousand sorties, but they had to indulge in aerobatics to get that many in. One formation of rocket firing typhoons came in about ten feet over the heads of a Canadian outfit to blast enemy positions - only fifty yards ahead of our lines.

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CBS HOTTELET 0045 9 July 1944

American, British and Canadian forces have all made progress today in Normandie. But the Germans, fighting bitterly, still remain in the towns of La Haye du Puits and Caen – ~~which~~ towns They've dug themselves securely in there and intend to hold them as anchor positions of their front.

Most ground was gained by American forces crossing the Vire river, and overrunning the town of St. Jean de Daye. We now have Sherman tanks across the Vire and in action beyond the town. According to the latest reports THEY ~~we~~ are in – or practically in – the hamlet of Le Desert, more than a mile and a half southwest of St. Jean.

We gained some ground, also, southwest of Carentan.

But up around La Haye du Puits, our forces are still finding the going pretty tough. We have patrols in the town and we control all the high ground around it, but the Germans are hanging on. It's an important place for them, and they've even brought up more strength to hold it. The 2nd SS Panzer Division, called Das Reich, has just been identified in that sector. This is one of the crack German Panzer Divisions, and is as strong and well equipped as any Panzer Division in the German Army. It had last been spotted on ~~the~~ eastern flank, in the Caen area, but was switched to the American front in forced marches. ----
It is presumed, by the way, that it took them more than a hundred miles of travelling, way back from the front and then forward again, to make this lateral switch of about thirty miles. ----

On the Allied left flank today, British and Canadian troops have been fighting hard. ~~and the British tonight are reported to be in the northwestern suburbs of Caen.~~ They've advanced an av-

erage of about a mile on a seven mile front, and Columbia's Bill Downs reports tonight that they've penetrated into the suburbs of Caen from two directions-- from the west, along the Caen-Bayeux road, and from the north into the factory district. They are within a mile of the center of the town.

The SHAEF communique tonight says that our ground progress everywhere owes much to the Allied air forces, operating in strength. It's a significant fact that most of the/sorties flown today in direct ground support of our troops, were flown by fighter bombers operating from advanced landing grounds in Normandy. They hit many gun and mortar positions.

Operations from Britain were curtailed by bad weather; but nevertheless heavy and medium bombers did cross the channel to bomb flying bomb sites, and enemy airfields and communications.

I return you now to Gen Elliott

CBS REPORT FROM LONDON 8 JULY 1944 HOTTELET, COLLINGWOOD
SIMPICH

When the Germans went into France -- as a matter of fact, wherever they went in the first years of this war -- ~~they took their Gauleiters along -- they and~~ they took all the paraphernalia of their New Order, they took the Gestapo, the looting battalions, the concentration camps and the overseers for their slave labor. -- Because they intended to remain, wherever they set foot, and remain as lords and masters.

It reflects the difference between us and the enemy that wherever we go we try to bring freedom.

In France today the Allied Forces have a Civil Affairs branch. These are men who have gone in with our armies to pick up the pieces, as it were, of free civilian life.

We're bringing you tonight two men who have been over to France and have seen what success we've had. One is Major Frederick Simpich, of Honolulu - who is himself a Civil Affairs officer; and the other is Charles Collignwood, CBS War Correspondent. Both have spent considerable time in France - and Charlie just got back to London night before last.

Hottelet: That's a good thing to know, and it'll make our position easier now and later in every way.

SIMPICH: I think it will. -- But, to get back to our story. Civil Affairs had been preparing for this thing a long time. And I will say that there were some good British and American brains working at it. You were out at our combined training school here in England, and you saw what we were trying to do.

Hottelet: Yes, I was very favorably impressed. You had a very good type of officer out there -- and your instruction was very practical indeed.

SIMPICH: The Provost Marshal General recruited our people from business, and from the professions and mainly from public life back home. They were all mature men, who knew how to deal with people and had a fund of experience of their own for dealing with human problems. We've got some congressmen, some judges of state supreme courts, bankers, newspapermen, doctors - and that sort of person. We've even got some obscure specialists, like authorities on European art treasures.

Well, these men were trained FOR ~~to~~ work in ~~the~~ specific areas, ~~they were going to be assigned to.~~ They go into the field in detachments, with technical specialists added like fire fighters and public health surgeons and so on. THEY'D ALL STUDIED FRENCH. Some of them knew France; had lived there for years. One of our finance men had been manager of the Guaranty Trust Company branch in Paris and knew exactly what problems and people he'd MEET ~~meet~~. ANOTHER ~~One~~ of these fellows I met by chance knew the country so well he was able to locate an obscure oyster bar in a beachhead town where we had a fine seafood dinner. -- But we tried to give all of them knowledge of local conditions.

SIMPICH cont: When our Civil Affairs officerS went into a town they knew which people to look for. [redacted] They had all the addresses, and knew where to locate the people and ~~[illegible]~~ FACILITIES they'd need. They knew the local price levels, the rationing measures, the political jurisdiction of the mayor or sous-prefet. [redacted] -- but they knew more than that. We tried to give them the flavor of the countryside. We knew, for instance, that the Chamber of Commerce was very important in Cherbourg. ~~And~~ WE KNEW that there was rivalry between the Carentan area and the rest of the Cherbourg peninsula over which part produced the best fodder for livestock.

It's that sort of knowledge that brings you close to people. ~~Many, of course, all our men had studied the French language.~~

Hottelet: But tell me, how did all this work out in practice? HoW did your men go ashore, and how did they get established in their areas?

SIMPICH: Our people went ashore with the first waves -- some even went in with the airborne forces. We had our share of missing and wounded. -- How do they go into towns? Well, let's just follow the procedure through.

Our men go in with the troops. They're usually in while there are still ENEMY snipers in the town. We have French liaison officers with us, or available to us -- and we go around with them to hunt up the mayor. Usually he's around, and IF he's acceptable to the French, he stays in office and functions freely. Sometimes he's a collaborator -- IN WHICH CASE HE'S USUALLY ~~[illegible]~~ run away with the Germans -- but someone emerges. ~~Either the local priest, or the school teacher, or the mayor's secretary.~~ If the ~~French liaison officer is~~ local French people are satisfied with him, we work with him.

SIMPICH Cont: In one place the mayor was suspect, but on his own account he said he "reckoned as how" he'd stay on his farm. His secretary took over his job. In every case we follow the French liaison people who have taken the lead in these things, and ~~we~~ WE'VE gotten full cooperation everywhere.

Hottelet: I guess the French are glad to see a French officer again.

SIMPICH: I'll tell you, the first real excitement I saw AMONG THE NORMANS was when a crowd of Frenchmen spotted the traditional flat-billed cap of a French officer we had with us. THEY cheered themselves hoarse.

Hottelet: Did you have many of these French liaison officers with you?

SIMPICH: YES, WE DID. ~~Well, in tactical liaison duty~~ At the outset we relied upon the French officers assigned TO OUR FORCES. We didn't want to go in and impose political leaders on the French or take any other action ourselves, so we took the advice of these French officers in all matters. It worked out very well. Now we're getting specially trained French civil affairs officers assigned to each town.

Hottelet: But, go on with the story of liberation.

SIMPICH: Each town is a different problem. Some are completely destroyed, some are intact. Where they're intact we have only minor questions to deal with — like sales of commodities to our troops and that sort of thing. — But where a town is destroyed, we try to help immediately. ~~in rebuilding~~. We help organize the town, to bury the dead, and care for the wounded, and help the mayor get tools and materials to start physical rebuilding. ~~HELP~~ HELP

Mines and booby traps HAVE TO BE CLEARED, AND WE ENCOURAGE CIVILIANS TO ORGANIZE AND HELP DO IT.

Hottelet: Don't our army engineers do that as they advance?

SIMPICH: No, they usually just clear the main roads along which they advance. They're in a hurry. It is up to us to arrange for civilians to HELP clear the lateral areas - the side roads and fields. It leads to some strange jobs. For instance, disposal of cattle killed by artillery and bombing has been a real problem. One field happened to have a mine that exploded when one Frenchman went in to bury a cow, so the Civil Affairs officer had to go in and bury the next six coss single handed to show it was all right.

X It was MAINLY this sort of thing that ~~was most difficult.~~ WE HAD TO COPE WITH. There were no problems of government. The towns had enough money, there was no food shortage, no disease.

Hottelet: How about a black market. Did you find that?

SIMPICH: There had been one under the Germans. ~~residents~~ THE PEOPLE say they encouraged it. But it has not gone badly now because most consumer goods - like shoes or collar buttons - just aren't there for any market. And as I say, food is there in abundance. No, it's an easy market for the time being.// Later on there may be another story.

In the smaller towns and country areas our problems are fairly simple. SOMETIMES TOO SIMPLE. In Valognes and Barneville our first problem was to stay there. Our men came in, said hello to the mayor, and then were chased out by heavy German artillery fire. That happened two or three times.

Hottelet: What about civilian evacuees and refugees? Are a lot of them on the move?

SIMPICH: That certainly was one of our main worries before "D" day - keeping the roads clear of civilian traffic. But it hasn't given us much trouble ~~in practice~~ FOR THE COMPARATIVELY FEW REFUGEES THERE'VE BEEN. We've opened some ~~refugee~~ centers. These were mostly German labor camps and prisoner of war camps with kitchen facilities and baths and bunks. But people haven't herded up there. They're very self-reliant, those Normans. People would come in to get a meal on their way back to their homes — But the thing most of them came in to find was work.

Hottelet: What sort of work do they want?

SIMPICH: They want to help us as stevedores on the beaches, and in construction, and work with our engineers. There are always millions of jobs to be done for an army.

Hottelet: Now we've been talking mainly about rural areas - how about cities? How about Cherbourg?

SIMPICH: Well, you know how we got into Cherbourg. Once we were there Civil Affairs went to work. The first big job was to get a water supply. There was great discomfort there — and danger of disease.

We needed pumps and wood and metal to repair mains. We dug up some cast iron pipes that had been hidden in a wood outside town and used them. We set up tank trucks and emergency water points throughout the city. This kept us ahead of the situation until the labor crews with their military equipment got the regular water supply going again.

Meanwhile we were working on our next biggest job - the care

SIMPICH Cont: of wounded and bombed out civilians. The wounded were treated in American field hospitals when they began to swamp the little civilian hospitals. Our Medical Corps gave them fine treatment. Fortunately there was no great shortage of clothing. Everybody had something on his back and a little in reserve. ~~There was a shortage of heavy work clothing, though - strangely enough - but we're helping out there by giving them salvaged American Army clothing, and by importing some.~~

Hottelet: What about the housing problem?

SIMPICH: So far, with the mild weather it's not serious. But something'll have to be done about it before winter comes.

Hottelet: Well, you've got the labor available, and you'll be getting the materials, I guess.

SIMPICH: The labor certainly is available. As a matter of fact, that was one of our -- I might almost say problems -- in Cherbourg. Everyone wanted to work, our Army wanted labor, but the voluntary employment system had been disbanded under the Germans. We asked the Mayor to dig up the man who had run the labor exchange before the Germans came and 18 hours later there was a free employment service running for the engineers and the beachmaster and the Quartermaster corps and the rest.

Hottelet: It's a very big job you're doing. How would you sum it all up?

SIMPICH: The French have taken hold very well. We've tried to help them, and we'll go on trying to help them. And, for the work we do, and the

SIMPICH Cont: sweat that goes into it ~~--~~ well, this experience EVEN IF IT IS in the richest most self-sufficient part of France ought to come in very handy if we encounter starvation or disorder in industrial France later on. ~~Certainly it is the best sort of introduction to European life and problems for us and will give us background for our biggest job -- when we take over our share of the Military Government of Germany.~~

Stet

Hottelet: Lead out

And now, here's Charles Collingwood, who has watched the work of Civil Affairs in France with the eyes of a trained and critical observer.

LEAD OUT:

That is the picture given by Charles Collingwood and Maj. Frederick Simpich of what we've been trying to do to help France back to her feet after four years of German occupation. It's a picture well to our credit.

~~Thankyou~~

This is Richard C. Hottelet ~~xxxxxx~~ Reporting from London, returning you now to CBS in New York.

CBS C. COLLINGWOOD JULY 8 22:45 ... (4 min)

Its always thrilling to watch a city come back to life. That is what has been happening to Cherbourg. ~~Kxxx~~ The battle for Cherbourg almost stopped the heart of the town. When we came in there were only a few people left ~~inxthextoxx~~ and none of them knew where there next meal was coming from, or where they would ~~sl~~ sleep, or what was going to happen to them in the next five minutes. And then, under our very eyes, life began to come back to Cherbourg. Day by day people began to come back and pretty soon there were all these people in Cherbourg and there was nothing for them to do the way things were, so the people who had been storekeepers swept out the broken ~~gal~~ galass and opened up the stores. Maybe the grocer knew a farmer not too far out of town so he went out there and came back with a cartload ~~xagonloxd~~ of vegetables.... and the men who had worked in the arsenal didn't have anything to do because the arsenal was blown up so they were rounded up and put to work cleaning up the streets ..... and the barber got tired of sitting around doing nothing and people's hair kept on growing so he opened up his barber shop.... ~~and~~ In a few days Cherbourg began to look like a city again instead of like a battlefield...... And with every day that passes life in Cherbourg becomes more and more like life anywhere else....

Although, of course, ~~Cherbourgx~~ there's pretty much of a military aspect about Cherbourg right now..... there are explosions going off

all the while as the engineers blow up one thing or another around the port, and the streets are full of soldiers either on duty or wandering around curiously looking at the strange things in the city of Cherbourg..... One American division which had fought its way all the way up the peninsula ended up right outside Cherbourg, but they didn't go in, so their general in a flash of inspiration decided he owed it to his boys to give them a look at what they had been fighting for all that time. He arranged for his whole division to go on a conducted tour of Cherbourg. One of his officers and I worked out a route and one day last week this division in batches of several hundred went through the town. First of all we took them up on top of Fort du Roule ~~and~~ where they could look down on the town and over the whole area.... and we explained to them that the 79th division came in here and the 9th division here and out there in the harbor you can see those 3 forts on the breakwater, well the Germans held out in those forts for a couple of days after the town had surrendered, but if they'd really had their hearts in it they could have held out for weeks.... and those little boats you see in the harbor are the minesweepers getting the port ready to go into operation ..... We told them everything we could and then we took this division in batches down through the town ... we told them to look in the shop windows and see the food coming in , and to notice the women with their full shopping baskets, and we told them a little of what the Germans had done to the people of Cherbourg.....And how the people had welcomed us — which they could see for themselves by all the people waving and making the V-sign at them

And when it was over the men of that division had a pretty good idea of what had happened to Cherbourg.... It was one of the most brilliant pieces of army education I ever saw.... ~~Itxximportant~~ It more important for the soldiers who fought for it than for anyone ~~less~~ else to know that we not only won a military victory for Cherbourg, but that we have won a moral victory as well.... and that while it is going to take some time to build up the broken houses of Cherbourg, we are already in a fair way to rebuilding its spirit..

CBS Hottelet 0045 8 July 1944

There has been no change on the Normandie front since about noon today. The bridgehead across the Vire river that American forces captured early this morning is under strong German counter fire. There is no word of an actual counterattack yet, though, from that particular point.

From various correspondents' reports it appears that the Germans have strengthened their artillery in the American part of the front -- Larry Lesueur this morning told of the "Screaming Minnie" being in action on our western flank. This is the German adaptation of the Russian Katusha multibarrelled rocket gun. And there are reports that the Germans now have heavy railroad guns in action along there as well as a greater number of 105's.

There's nothing new available in London about the Carentan and Haye du Puits sectors - but the Germans have something to say about them. Paris radio admits the German withdrawal of several kilometers southwest of Carentan, and says that a town called Montgardon has fallen to our troops. --- And speaking of the Haye du Puits, the German radio reports heavy fighting, and says our troops have penetrated into the forest of Montecastre. It says that this forest is so completely shot up as to remind one of the Argonne of the last war.

Bill Downs gave the latest news from the eastern, British, sector of the battlefront tonight, when he told how he had watched hundreds of heavy RAF bombers drop explosives on German concentrations in the Caen area. It was a heavy blow, carried out in the failing light of evening.

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As far as the rest of the Normandie front was concerned,though, today was a disappointing day in the air. There was between six tenths and ten tenths clouds over the whole area, with local showers to boot. Except for some fighter bomber sorties only routine reconnaissance missions were flown.

This reduced air war does not hold for Germany, though. Our Strategic Air Force has released more information about todays great assault on vital German war targets in the Leipzig area. 1100 Fortresses and Liberators ~~were involved~~ took part, and they were escorted by between 500 and 750 fighters. There were fierce air battles - the biggest since May 19th -- and we shot down 114 German planes. Our own losses were 36 bombers and 6 fighters.

There's a piece of political news in London tonight that deserves mention along with the war news. A new Yugoslav government has been formed. It's composed of six ministers, two of whom are representatives of Marshal Tito. -- The prospect for unity in Yugoslavia is good today, for the first time in ~~more than~~ two ~~years~~ and a half years.

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estingly enough they say that these divisions are commanded by SS General Sepp Dietrich. Dietrich was commander of the crack SS Adolf Hitler armored division, and it looks now as if he's in command of all SS armor in the Caen area under Rommel.

West of Caen the situation on the Carpiquet airfield remains unchanged. We have the buildings on the north and the Germans
hangars and administrative
have the/buildings on the south of the field. The enemy has dug in some tanks, and opposition is fierce.

Murrow to CBS.... 7/24

CBS Hottelet 7 July 1944 1400 standby

The Germans have been reporting this morning that Allied forces, amounting to several divisions, have begun an attack in the Caen area. The enemy says that this attack is being launched toward the town of Caen from the northwest along the Bayeux-Caen road. --- ~~There is no confirmation~~ The Germans do not say whether this assault involves new divisions, or whether it's being carried by the forces that have been in that area. ----- There is no confirmation in London early this afternoon of such an operation. And the communique this morning says ~~[illegible]~~ there's been no change in the Caen area.

It's interesting in this connection, though, that Allied correspondents from the front reported large German movements in that area. One correspondent says it was the largest daylight movement seen yet, and seemed to be progressing to the Caen area from the southeast.

The German reports of the supposed great battle are detailed enough -- which of course does not necessarily vouch for their accuracy --. One German war reporter says that more than 400,000 men and two thousand tanks are engaged in a bitter battle on a frontal arc of twelve miles west and southwest of Caen. The battle, this German says, is raging almost without pause between German elite troops and British and Canadian elite troops. -- He says that new British tank and infantry divisions have been disembarked off the Orne estuary and are being thrown into the battle - (which is an entirely different direction from the first German report).

~~The same German report~~ The Germans say that numbers of their own divisions are being thrown into the battle. Inter-

estingly enough they say that these divisions are commanded by SS General Sepp Dietrich. Dietrich was commander of the crack SS Adolf Hitler armored division, and it looks now as if he's in command of all SS armor in the Caen area under Rommel.

West of Caen the situation on the Carpiquet airfield remains unchanged. We have the buildings on the north and the Germans have the hangars and administrative buildings on the south of the field. The enemy has dug in some tanks, and opposition is fierce.

CBS Hottelet 7 July 1944 1500

A report just in from the Normandie battlefront says that American forces have launched a new attack in the central sector. Preceded by ~~xxxxxx~~ what ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Hank Gorrell of the UP calls an "enormous" artillery barrage, our infantry attacked across the Vire River in the vicinity of St. Jean de Daye. After two hours of firing, the range of the guns was lifted and the infantry went in behind a creeping barrage.

After a hot sunny day yesterday, that had brought all the old choking French dust into the eyes and noses of the men on the ground, rain during most of last night turned the ground muddy and sticky again. Today is overcast again, and dive bombers darting in to the attack behind the enemy lines have had to come down under the gray clouds. Gorrell says they are attacking in the area behind St. Lo, presumably to pin down German reinforcements.

Gorrell reports that our infantry's progress this morning is said to be satisfactory. They were met with determined opposition in the German lines - mostly from small arms fire and mortars. You can see the range is pretty close.

This is the latest development on the Normandie front. Farther to the west, at the base of the Cherbourg peninsula, other American forces are fighting hard around ~~xxx~~ La Haye du Puits, and southwest from Carentan. ~~xx~~ During the past twentyfour hours there have been small advances in each sector.

The Germans are still in the town of La Haye du Puits, ~~xxx~~ and are resisting our attempts to drive them out. But other American forces are pushing south to the east of the town, and have crossed the Plessis Canal.

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We're not only trying to push through La Haye, we're also trying to flow around it. To the east of it we've advanced two miles southward from St. Jore, capturing the village of Beau Caudray and going on yet another half mile to reach the Plessis canal.

Between La Haye and the point where our new attack developed this morning, our troops have fought their way farther along the road leading southwest out of Carentan.

After an excellent day in the air yesterday, during which heavy medium and fighter bombers flew about 6,000 sorties, the weather began to turn sour again last night. RAF Mosquito pilots going out on special jobs early this morning report that they were disturbed by electrical storms that sent their instruments spinning.

But, if air activity over Normandie is restricted again today, it hasn't stopped our heavy bombers from pushing on deep into Germany. The Germans started reporting the approach of our heavy bomber formations at about eight o'clock - both from the west into Central Germany and from the south into Austria. -- It's since been officially announced in London that American fortresses and Liberators - in very great strength - attacked an aircraft assembly plant near Leipzig this morning.

For his part, the enemy continued to send his flying bombs over to this country during the night. You'd be surprised to hear how Londoners have received the American reaction to Churchill's report yesterday on these bombs. We read in the papers this morning how people at home think the British are

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standing up so very well to this latter day blitz. And they seemed to expand slightly under this generous praise - which not a soul had been expecting. When the sirens went ~~this morning~~ today it was perhaps just a shade less annoying.

INSERT PAGE ONE

This is the latest development on the Normandie front. It is, of course, too soon to say what the objectives are or how it fits into the general strategy.

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C.B.S. "REPORT TO THE NATION" Wed/Thurs, 5/6 July 1944

between 0430 - 0500 DBST

RICHARD HOTTELET interviewing BRIG. GEN. FRANK McSHERRY

HOTTELET: With the air borne forces on the morning of D-Day and with the combat troops that stormed the beaches went a group of men whose job was not to fight but to preserve and to rebuild. It was up to them to help our French Allies to cope with the chaos and the suffering that war leaves in its wake.

These were the men of Civil Affairs. Their duty is to give liberation its positive meaning.

Here is Brigadier General Frank J. McSherry of Washington, D.C., Chief of Operations of Civil Affairs.

What are your officers doing in France, General?

McSHERRY: Their first duty is to help defeat the enemy and liberate France. And by liberate we mean - giving the people of France the full freedom they lost four years ago. For instance, we make no attempt to conduct civil administration. That is left to the French. Our civil affairs officers give advice where it is wanted and assist the French officials in every way possible. We see our main job in providing food, medical supplies and clothing wherever we can; and in helping the French re-establish normal community life.

HOTTELET: How has their work gone so far?

McSHERRY: They have done very well. For one thing, it's been easier than we were afraid it might be. We have been lucky. We have struck one of the food producing parts of France first. There is sufficient food in Normandy. There is no health problem, but we shall have our problems later. Our officers have had the friendly support of the French in every case. The best example of how we work is provided by Cherbourg. Civil Affairs men went in with the first troops. They immediately looked around for the most urgent job to be done. They checked food stocks and the condition of hospitals, opened a labour recruiting office and - most important of all in the long run - turned the town back to the French authorities.

We learnt a lot of lessons in Sicily and Italy about what a community needs to emerge from the nightmare of war and take up normal life again, and we can give the French some helpful advice in feeding, housing and clothing people whose homes have been destroyed and some of whom are wounded. -----But the French know their own needs better than we do, so we follow their lead all along.

HOTTELET: What sort of people have you got for this work out in the field?

McSHERRY: They're British and Americans -- mostly mature people who were a success in business or in public life before the army called them to do this job. The colonel, who commands

MCSHERRY: (contd.) the Civil Affairs detachment in Cherbourg, was a prominent Philadelphia business man. His second in command is an Oxford trained British army officer. These men and all Civil Affairs officers have been trained intensively for this job and they are doing it to the best of their ability.

HOTTELET: They have since H Hour, British and Americans together. Some have been wounded, all have worked day and night. Their main reward so far - and it's the best reward - is the gratitude of the French people they have helped.

Thank you General Frank McSherry.

We return you now ....

but the French know their own needs better than we do, so we follow their lead all along.

HOTTELET: What sort of people have you got for this work out in the field?

McSHIRTY: They're British and Americans -- mostly mature people who were a success in business or in public life before the army called them to do this job. The colonel, who commands

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CBS: "OLD GOLD PROGRAM" WED/THURS July 6: 0200 - 02.30

HOTTELET: Here in our London studio are six men of the American Army - who've been doing important jobs in France and in England -- to send their messages to the folks back home.

w

AND NOW ANOTHER ARMY CORRESPONDENT ~~[illegible]~~ Sgt. Robert S. Hughes, of Chicago, Ill., ~~of~~ IN the medical ~~corps~~ DEPARTMENT, who's been to France TOO. How do things look, Bob?

HUGHES: ~~I'm an Army correspondent in the Office of the Chief Surgeon; and I've mostly observed the evacuation of casualties.~~ I went in on an LST on D plus one, and since then I've covered lots of medical stories. Gail, who's in the WAVES, can be proud of the cooperation we got from the Navy doctors. ~~The LST's are well equipped with drugs and operating equipment. The wounded are moved fast, and~~ the care ~~they~~ THE WOUNDED get is magnificent. You can tell it by looking at them. They've got color in their cheeks and their morale is high. One thing ~~[illegible]~~ I want to tell you all is that we can't get enough plasma. ~~The officers and soldiers in France are giving blood but~~ we need more from you.

thank you [illegible]!
this is RCH in London

I return you now to Allan
Jones in N.Y.

HOTTELET: ~~And~~ here's ~~another~~ AN army correspondent - Sgt. Bernard L. Crystal of [redacted] Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn, N.Y. - ~~who's been over in France with the Engineers.~~

~~Es~~ CRYSTAL, YOU'VE BEEN TO FRANCE

~~DID YOU GET~~ ~~How long were you there?~~

CRYSTAL: ~~I was over there almost three weeks on detached service for the office of the Chief of Engineers.~~ In civilian life I drew portraits of people; I WENT TO ~~[illegible]~~ France~~-[illegible]~~ TO draw~~ing~~ portraits of German pillboxes ~~[illegible]~~. It's to illustrate a history of the engineers. — I guess it's the best way for an artist to help in the war.

I walked up and down my beach for twenty days, and the job those engineers have done is wonderful. ~~They changed that place completely. Where there was one road one day there were fifteen the next.~~ They've made one big unloading platform out of it.

1^{00}

HOTTELET: And here's another Engineer - ~~but one from the technical side of the business~~ -- 1st Lieut. Robert A. Cameron of Chester, Pa., How did you feel hitting that beach, Bob?

CAMERON: ~~That Cherbourg beach has been my baby for almost a year~~. We studied the tides ~~and the~~ obstacles ~~and the~~ mines and ~~the~~ pillboxes ON THAT BEACH until I knew them backwards ~~before we ever went ashore~~. We went in [redacted] minutes after H. Hour with the American First Army and helped clear them off. I spent about three weeks in Normandy, d~~oing all sorts of special engineering jobs~~ and watch~~ing~~ed the fighting for places like Quineville and Ste. Mere Eglise and Carentan. ~~I did reconnaissance between the beaches, too, and was there when the two American beachheads joined~~ up.

~~The thing that impressed me most~~ THO' ~~was the amazing courage and skill of the men who went up the beach that first day, raked by enemy fire, and cracked those pillboxes.~~ ~~All I can say is, America can be proud of her boys~~.

HOTTELET: Now we've got three railroad men - ~~[illegible]~~. Here's Sergeant Russell G. Ferguson of Lebanon, Virginia. You fellows have been doing some good work.

FERGUSON: I'm glad to hear you say it. We've certainly been working hard. ~~Since ten months before D Day [illegible] from blackout to blackout. As far as I'm concerned, I think I'll call myself a military [illegible]~~ — I've had more different jobs ~~in the year~~ since we've been here than I'd ever heard of in the old Bluefield shop of the Norfolk and Western. ~~I've designed lettering and insignia, and put bunks into Liberty ships and even built a rolling headquarters for General Burpee.~~

Our main job, though, is to keep the stuff moving. Irene works hard making ammunition and this half of the family is making sure it gets to where it's wanted — ~~xx~~ fast.

BOTTALAT: And little Private First Class Juan B. Marquez is in the same outfit. He can't make up his mind whether he's prouder of his Heavy Shop Battalion or of his brand new stripe.

If [redacted] YOUR MOTHER could see you now!

MARQUEZ: She'd see me working hard. [redacted] I haven't been over to the other side yet, but I hope we'll be getting there before long. [redacted]

I'm doing the job I did before the war -- keeping the journal box lubricated. The boys at the Needles shops of the Santa Fe would be proud if they could see our [redacted] railroad. [redacted]

HOTTELET: Now here is their boss, - 1st Lieutenant George F. Yeager, of Altoona, Pa. ~~[illegible] inspector~~ FORMERLY with the test department of the Pennsylvania RR. ~~[illegible]~~

How're things going, George?

YEAGER: Swell. Our ~~[illegible]~~ GANG is building as much as any individual shop I've ever been in. ~~It's partly [illegible] like beavers,~~ ~~[illegible]~~ what really makes it possible is the quantity and quality of the prefabricated stuff you send us from America. ~~Someday we'll be able to tell you how many [illegible] cars and locomotives we've sent to France in these [illegible] four months. You'll be [illegible].~~

We're all working hard to get this thing over with. It was about 8.30 in the evening exactly a year ago tonight that I said goodbye to my mother. I hope I see her again before July 5th next year.

Portugese

Hottelet CBS 0045 4 July 1944 Standby not used

One thing holds for the entire Normandy front tonight, and that is that MUD bad weather and stiff German opposition are making it tough going for our forces.

The Shaef communique tonight is one of the most uninformative since D Day.

The American sector of the front, where the only offensive fighting is going on, is dealt with in the terse phrase-- Allied forces gained some ground to the south.

As Larry Lesueur just said, the purpose of the American offensive in the Cherbourg peninsula seems at the moment to be limited to the capture of the town and road junction of Haye du Puits. Most dispatches refer to the attack as one with limited objectives. This is probably a precaution to forestall the impression that a tidal wave has been unloosed in that sector. -- But it's certainly not hedging. General Bradley knows his men, and he knows his strategy. He was confident enough to send them out to attack this morning in weather that made air support impossible.

So far the concentric attack on Haye du Puits has PROGRESSED ~~advanced~~ about two and a half miles at one point to capture the town of St. Jores -- at least that's the latest word available in London. And it looks as if going will continue to be slow. The terrain is bad for armor -- again the neatly hedged Normandie countryside is helping the defender --- and in addition the ground has become muddy and sticky from much rain. Add to this the fact that we were unable all day to send any bombers - or any size-

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eable number even of fighter bombers over to help our troops.

On the British sector of the front there's been no change at all. As far as we know here the Germans have not counter-attacked in this area at all today. Reports from the front say that the British tank crews are using the lull in the fighting to catch up on their sleep . It doesn't say what the infantry is doing; but presumably it's using all its energy to keep from ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ sinking into the mud. Stories from that part of the front are not sparing the adjectives in describing the mud, and the inevitable comparison with the Flanders of the last war is being made right and left.

Once again tonight we're told that the weather has begun to improve and that it might be better tomorrow. We've heard that one before, though, and most of us feel like the American General who was asked what ~~xxxxx~~ ought to be done with the weather forecasters. His answer was - we might as well ditch meteorology and stick to prayer.

~~Txxxxxxx~~ One gleam of hope comes from the Germans tonight, though, who seem perfectly serious in predicting that -- the entire Normandy front will flare up within the next few days.

Hottelet Admiral 2030 2 July 1944

As far as we know in London tonight, the fight-
after several German counterattacks were repulsed 1 nite
ing in the Tilly Caen area has slackened/ British troops are re-
this evening
ported/patrolling south of the Odon River in the sector around
Evrecy and Esquay.

The British salient is holding firm, xxx but it looks as if fighting may flare up again at any time.

Hottelet CBS Admiral 2030 2 July 1944

You've heard ~~what~~ Bill Downs ~~said~~ from the secene of the fighting on our Eastern Flank in Normandie. -- The Germans are also reporting the ~~xxkkx~~ situation, ~~and from the tone of their stories it looks as if they're not exactly pleased with the way things stand.~~ They say that the British are supported by a steamroller of land and naval artillery fire ~~in their attempt to break through southeast of Caen.~~ AND They talk as if fighting ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ there had not slackened at all --one German correspondent saying "the enormous tank battle southwest of Caen, which has lasted more than 100 hours continues with undiminished fury". This same reporter credits the British with having 14-16 ~~ten infantry and armored~~ divisions there. The idea of this propagandistic German reporting would seem to be to justify in advance a possible withdrawal and to squeeze more credit out of delaying our advance.

The weather has kept our air activity down to practically nothing at all -- so far the only word is of Fortresses, Liberators and RAF Lancasters bombing the doodlebug coast. -- In The Caen area, though, the Navy has taken over part of the air force's job -- and done it nobly. The Battleship Rodney had been throwing 16 inch shells for eighteen miles into German concentrations in the Caen area. Each shell is about the equal of a one ton bomb.

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Elsewhere on the Normandie front we have nothing to report in the way of military engagements. The Germans say that American troops were attacking ~~xxxxxx~~ repeatedly yesterday North of St. Lo. And says that we are regrouping our forces here as a prelude to a major combined Anglo American effort. ~~to enlarge the beachhead.~~

There was word today of the progress being made in restoring the port of Cherbourg. Major General Cecil Moore, Chief Engineer of the US Forces in this theater reported that the Germans had done an expert job of demolition; he said that they had not been indiscriminate, but had dynamited what would do maximum damage --- the longest bridges, key railroad spurs in the port and the roads and railroads leading out of the city. They sank ships at strategic points in the harbor and left many mines and underwater obstacles. --- The General said it would be a tough job getting Cherbourg back in working order, a tougher job than we had at Naples. But he said we were prepared to tackle it -- that we had been preparing, as a matter of fact, with maps and plans and even scale models of Cherbourg for the past two years.

center 2

It's this sort of preparation and organization that made the captured German commander of Cherbourg, Admiral Hennecken, do a strange thing when he landed in England. As his LST approached shore he asked permission to come topside. There, in one of the invasion ports, he saw just another routine convoy assembling for the trip to France. The Admiral - who is a tough man - took his pipe out of his mouth and - very deliberately - knocked the ashes out onto the palm of his hand. He then let the ashes spill into the sea and said, in clipped, precise English, "That is the way the sands are running out for Germany."

C.B.S. REPORT FROM LONDON HOTTELET AND HEINDEL 2245 1 JULY '44

From the point of view of long term effects, the information service of the United States Government that is most valuable is the one that gives our friends the facts about America.

The News Division of the Office of War Information provides British newspapers with actual news -- but fundamentals on American History, Art, Music, Industry,- American life and its background as a whole - are provided by the American Reference Library of the OWI, run by scholarly young Dr. Richard Heindel of Philadelphia.

Hottelet interviewing Heindel CBS Report from London 1 July 1944 2245

Hottelet: You're trying to give Britain a better picture of America, ~~[illegible]~~ Dick. Just exactly how do you go about doing that?

Heindel; I think I'd better start off by telling you what we don't try to do. We're not out to shove America or American values down anyone's throat. We're a library — a reference library, mainly – and we try to satisfy requests for information about America and American life.

~~There's no propaganda about our job. As a matter of fact we wouldn't need any high pressure salesmanship at all. There's plenty of curiosity here about America – as a matter of fact more often than not we can't keep pace with the demand. We feed that curiosity, and we try to extend it to more and more fields.~~

Hottelet: What sort of things do you find people asking for most — or before you answer that one, who does the asking, what sort of people or institutions ~~[illegible]~~ use your material?

Heindel; Well, usually a reference library is designed for and used mainly by people who're doing academic research, or who're specialists in a particular field and want to learn more about it.

But here we've got a job to do that has to reach out far beyond academic circles if it's to be worth while.

~~We have all sorts of people come in asking for magazines, newspapers and the latest American best sellers. And we pay as much attention to them as we do to others, whose interest is more professional, [illegible]~~ We have people coming in regularly, wanting to see the latest copies of the New Yorker, or the Saturday Evening Post, or Life Magazine. — And then, of course, there are

Heindel (cont.) all sorts of other requests. We get queries and demands from British Government offices, from business firms and libraries and universities and professional societies. -- And we've gotten requests from just about every British magazine there is for information about America.

Hottelet: Well, what sort ofnthing do these people and societies want?

Heindel: There's been a gradual development in the Englishman's appetite for information about America. When we first started the Library, a year and a half ago, the average request we got was simpler than it is now. Most Englishmen at that time hadn't met many Americans -- but the presence here of American troops made them wonder what our country was like. As I say, the questions tended to be simpler -- they asked about our form of Government, and how the Star Spangled Banner became our National Anthem ----- they wanted to know how Congress worked, and how the President was elected and so on.

~~Ex For the average Englishman, though, the conception of America was limited to a vague idea that somewhere between the skyscrapers of New York and the luscious blondes of Hollywood --- vaguely somewhere in between there was a huge continent.~~

Even in this last year and a half -- which isn't a long time for a reference library -- we've watched this change. Our soldiers have been largely responsible, I think. A man in London or Birmingham meets a boy from Colorado or Tennessee - gets to like him, finds out something about how people there live and what they eat and what they grow and what the country's like -- why, he naturally wants to know more. He comes

Heindel (cont) to us, or goes to his own library which comes to us, and we try to give him the information.

Hottelet: So you think our Army has done more in England than just prepare for invasion?

Heindel: They certainly have — they've made many more people want to know a lot more about America. British military people and civilians have seen the superb American Army equipment. They want to know how it's made - under what conditions, where and by what people. — This leads to requests for information about labor organizations and labor legislation, and how we solve our manpower problems. ——— You can see how one thing leads to another.

There's another thing that awakens interest in American life, and that's the periodic examination of social questions in parliament and in public here. A debate on housing, or education, or health insurance in Parliament will start a great many questions as to how we deal with these matters in America.

You can see we've come a long way from the simple questions we started out with. We've got to keep on our toes to provide the material that will answer them. Our library gets ~~present~~ 500 American magazines regularly and we've got about 5,000 volumes ~~in the library~~ — but we have to get many more in to keep up with the demand. Sometimes we get only one copy of a very widely demanded book — this happened with Undersecretary of State Stettinius' book on Lend Lease. Well, we tore that book apart and had it photostated page by page in order to send it around to editors and libraries.

Hottelet: You certainly get a fine distribution.

Heindel: Yes, I think we do. You see, for one thing, London is the central point of a vast empire - and information we procure is very often sent on out to the dominions and colonies. And then also, you've got to remember that London is the center now for many governments in exile -- and by giving them material,-- ----- as we have, on things like housing and soil conservation, --- it will trickle into postwar Europe.

Hottelet: It's good to know that hand in hand with power in war, we've begun to demonstrate to Europe in this scholarly library, how firm a place America holds in the culture of the world today.

Thank you, Dr. Richard H. Heindel.

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hottelet cbs ~~standby~~ 0045 1 july 1944

IN NORMANDIE Fighting is still fierce tonight in the British salient to the west of Caen. We know the Germans are bringing up reinforcements, and the Germans say we are -- and the indications are all that even bigger battles are impending in that sector. Bill Downs, speaking from the battle area tonight, said ~~says~~ that these actions may be bigger than any fought so far.

Downs quotes a press conference with the commander of the British second army General Dempsey this afternoon in which the General said that the first phase had been concluded and that he was waiting - and waiting confidently - for the second.

What that second phase will be we do not know. We've been expecting a concerted counterattack from Rundstedt and Rommel. Maybe that will be it. The miserable weather of the past few weeks has enabled the enemy to bring reserves up to the Normandie front. His basic timetable is still completely out of gear -- but opinion here is that if the enemy is going to try to deal us a crippling blow, this is pretty nearly his last chance. ~~and he'd be well advised to strike with whatever he has on hand~~

Most of the enemy's armor is now concentrated IN THAT SECTOR. ~~on the our left flank~~ We know that troops are beginning to appear in the Caen area who have been in Russia recently. We know fairly accuartely which units they are -- but the vagaries of censorship forbid us making them public.

At the moment the picture on that eastern flank is roughly like this: driving southeast from Tilly sur Seuilles, British infantry and armor have driven a wedge into

the German lines west of the town of Caen. This wedge, or salient, was pushed across the Orne River two days ago. It was immediately recognized by the enemy as a threat to outflank his entire Caen position and yesterday afternoon he began a counterattack with three battalions of infantry and 30 tanks. The main attack was directed against the right shoulder of the salient and was beaten off in four hours fierce fighting. Since then there have been more attacks and counterattacks on the left as well as on the right shoulder of the British troops.

The Germans say that this wedge - four or five miles deep and three or four wide - has behind it the weight of three infantry and three armored divisions.

On the American side of the front, to the west, the Germans report that General Bradley is regrouping his forces, and that Sherman tanks which had helped take Cherbourg had now been seen down around Haye du Puits and Carentan. This is probably fishing for information -- but it would be as well to watch that portion of the front from now on. The short advance tonights communique reports near St. Jean de Daye -- that's north of St. Lo-- shows that no part of that front is static.

The weather was most unfavorable again up to noon today, and it was mainly after noon that light and medium bombers went out to bomb road and rail junctions and enemy concentrations.

U.S. - Army Air Force [illegible]

hottelet cbs 30 June 1944 0045

Larry Lesueur's told you what the tip of the Cherbourg peninsula looks like on the ground. I can give you a bird's eye view -- because I flew over it this afternoon with a Marauder group to do a little job for our friends of the infantry.

~~The~~ the Germans are still on the northwestern tip of the Cherbourg peninsula. They learned a great lesson from the fighting in Russia, and ordered isolated units everywhere to fight to the last man. Our forces have had trouble with those little hedgehogs and strongpoints around Cherbourg -- but we cleared most of them out; and the only ones left this afternoon were enemy groups that had withdrawn into the narrow Cape de la Hague in the western tip.

You wouldn't have thought there was very much more for the air force to do up there - but about noon today Col. Joe Kelly got a message to send his Marauder group out after a six gun battery of German 155 mm guns there. The Germans had several of these heavy gun positions out there, but had kept some of them quiet to spare them from attack until they could do some last minute damage. Last night and this morning they began to take the city of Cherbourg under fire.

The weather has been pretty bad the last few days, and the Marauders haven't been out much. It wasn't much better this afternoon - but the guns were becoming annoying and we were ordered out anyway. -- We loaded up with two two thousand pound bombs and took off just after noon. We had to stay down pretty low - most of the time below two thousand feet. And even at that there were places over the channel where we went through thick rain cloud.

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PRESS SECTION
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

We bombed from just under five thousand feet -- ~~xxx~~ we flew in formation so tight ~~xxxx~~ I was almost afraid in that bumpy sky. As we approached the ~~xxx~~ position we could see it - and another not far away firing their guns. Our bombs fell in a dense cluster - practically simultaneously - squarely on the battery. It will do no more damage.

INSERT ~~-----------------~~I was flying in a ship piloted by Captain Albert Aberson, of Ennis, Texas. In the target area our machine guns began firing. I asked over the intercom if there were any/ German fighters. Engineer Gunner ~~xxxxxx~~ Himelright drawled back --"naw, ~~xxxx~~ some Jerries down there scampering for shelter. I was just helpin' 'em jump."

That's what the air force wants to do - help Jerry jump; and it's only disappointed that the weather hasn't given them more chance to do it.

INSERT Turning away from the target we passed not far from the ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ city of Cherbourg and saw what seemed to be ships going in and out of the port.

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PRESS SECTION
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

hottelet cbs 30 June 1944 0045 STANDBY 604

The fighting in Normandy is still bitterest on the eastern flank -- in the Tilly-Caen area. German resistance is dogged, and our progress has been slow. But there has been progress. Our main job in that area seems to be to consolidate our bridgehead across the River Odon.

We have penetrated across the river and have taken high ground not far from the villages of Evrecy and Esquay; which should be useful in maintaining our positions and as jumping off points ~~from~~ for further attacks.

In addition to this attempt to outflank Caen, the British are exerting frontal pressure on the city from the north.

Both sides have brought more armor into this area - but tank battles have been restricted to actions between small groups of tanks. Still and all there are indications that the scale of the battle on the eastern flank ~~will~~ may increase. The Germans claim that two British corps are already in action North and West of Caen ---- and late tonight Bill Downs reported from the battle area that the Germans seemed to be attacking the ~~British~~ right flank of the British forces ~~with~~ in their biggest effort yet. There's one interesting German report - which may or may not mean anything - that another American Armored division has been thrown into the battle to the south. -- This may be just fishing for information, but the enemy is not losing sight of the fact that the whole Normandie front is one operational whole - and that the British and Americans are not going to take turns

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PRESS AND CENSORSHIP BUREAU

hitting the enemy; but are going to balance the pressure to suit their plans. The Germans say that General Bradley is right now carrying out major regrouping of his forces in the Cherbourg peninsula. Which is the logical thing to expect, now that the main job there has been done.

So far in the Cherbourg peninsula campaign we have counted 37,333 German prisoners, and 3,900 German dead. The Germans are still making a minor last ditch stand on the northwestern tip of the peninsula - the Cape de la Hague - and the figures of German prisoners and dead will increase when they are mopped up. It is also announced tonight that we have destroyed or damaged 292 German tanks since we landed in Normandy.

The weather has continued to keep our air participation in the Battle of Normandie down to a mere fraction of what it could be. Even so, fighter and medium bombers today continued there attacks on enemy concentrations and communications of all kinds.

American Fortresses and Liberators - between 750 and 1,000 of them - today flew deep into Germany to bomb synthetic oil plants and other industrial targets in the Leipzig - Brunswick area. The bombing of Germany's fuel resources is already contributing to a shortage of fuel in the German army and air force. Strategic bombing properly employed can have a tactical effect.

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PRESS AND CENSORSHIP BUREAU

Hottelet CBS 1400 28 June 1944 standby

The main weight of combat in Normandie has now shifted to the LEFT flank, where General Montgomery's forces are pressing southeastward to outflank the city of Caen.

The British and Canadian forces began the attack about fortyeight hours ago, and have since kept making progress in the face of stiffening German resistance. They are now six miles from their starting base at Tilly sur Seuilles.

Correspondents at the front write about a "back door thrust" at Caen - and it may be that Montgomery is aiming at attacking the town from the rear.

Fighting is now going on in seas of mud. There has been heavy rain during the last twentyfour hours, and one correspondent it almost reminds him of Flanders in the last war. Montgomery is pressing his attack forward with massed artillery and with armor. ~~Naval guns offshore are helping in the barrage. -- They seem to be extremely effective, because~~ In the German admission this morning that they have had to retire in thet area the reason given is heavy shelling from the sea. → PICK UP

Some German tanks have been met, and a dozen of the big Tiger and Panther tanks are reported to have been destroyed. So far it doesn't look, though, as if the Germans had made any attempt at a determined counterattack.

The farthest point the British have reached so far is Tourville, about six miles southwest of Caen. In getting there they cut the road and railroad from Villers-Bocage to Caen, and also crossed the ODON River.

Hottelet CBS INSERT 1400 28 june 1944 standby

In the Cherbourg area American forces are mopping up. This mornings SHAEF communique puts it succinctly in saying -

In the vicinity of Cherbourg Allied Forces made progress in cleaning out enemy remnan~~x~~ts hemmed in the horns of the peninsula.

THE ARSENAL, AND THE DEPUTY GERMAN COMMANDER SURRENDERED LAST NIGHT.

The only centers of resistance that seem to bë left are the Maupertus airfield to the east, and the Cap de la Hague area to the west.

Supreme Headquarters gave ~~the~~ A sober reckoning this morning - the price we had to pay in casualties for the progress we made in the first two weeks of invasion. Total casualties - killed, wounded and missing are 40,049. Total killed are 5,287.

American casualties were heaviest-3,082 killed, 13, 121 mounded and 7, 959 missing. An American total of over 24,000.

German losses have been considerably heavier than ours. Preliminary estimates put their total losses at about 70,000 -- and it looks as if that estimate were very conservative.

page two hottelet cbs 28 june 1944 1400 standby

The Germans report that the battle here is growing fiercer hour by hour both west and east of Caen - and explain the east by saying that fighting is in progress, too, on the extreme eastern flank, in the Orne River area.

~~There's one peculiar German story about this part of the Normandie front this morning~~ -- Paris radio is reporting a huge Allied fleet off the coast, consisting of battleships, cruisers, destroyers ~~and 40 large transports from which landings are being made~~. It's not impossible that some heavy units are there to shell the Caen sector.

After a lull of two days our air forces were active again last night and this morning. Strong forces of heavy American bombers went out this morning to bomb airfields around Laon, and railroad yards at Saarbruecken in western Germany. Last night a thousand heavy RAF bombers went after the flying bomb installations across the channel again, and attacked rialroad bottlenecks deep behind the fighting front. Fighter bombers went after the same sort of target with rockets and bombs. -- One of the targets they pinpointed with rockets was a German headquarters in the southern part of the Cherbourg peninsula.

~~Another small piece of good news this morning comes from Paris, where patriots have assassinated Philip Henriot, the propaganda minister of Vichy France and one of the most violent persecutors of the resistance movement.~~

hottelet cbs 28 june 1944 1500 standby

Speaking of pinpoint targets, the French underground last night pinpointed itself one. In Paris last night fifteen French patriots broke into the Vichy propaganda ministry and assassinated Philip Henriot. Henriot had sought safety by moving his household into the Ministry. But the patriots, apparently disguised as Vichy militiamen, broke into the Ministry and shot Henriot dead. Henriot had been one of Laval's closest collaborators, and, as chief Vichy propagandist,had bitterly fought the underground movement.

Although what the Germans say doesn't matter very much any more, the propaganda output on the fighting in Normandie has been particularly interssting the last 24 hours. The main theme is that the Germans are still waiting for the main Allied drive. Rundstedt is said to be expecting new Allied landings any day, and is ~~keeping~~ holding back his strategic reserves without regard for considerations of prestige.

Then Goebbels continues with this bit: It is strange, he says, that there has yet been no largescale counterattack in Normandy. But it's of great importance to know where the enemy will throw his main weight on the battlefield. To lose Vitebsk, Rome and Cherbourg is a bargain as the price of knowledge where the enemy will commit his main strangth.

HOTTELET CBS ~~26x~~ 27 june 1944 0045 standby

The latest news available in London on the progress of the Battle of Cherbourg is that fighting is still going on in the streets. We are clearing the town, but the Germans are holding out in several strong points in and around it.

Official news always travelsmore slowly, and it may be that the situation is way ahead of us. As far as we know, the Germans are still defending the naval arsenal and the naval port in the western part of the city. Theyalso seem still to be lodged on the airfield of Maupertus, outside town to the east, - and at several fortified positions in between. --- The main points that are being fought for now have been fortified for more than a century and a quarter - selected by Napoleon, added to by Napolen the tirdx and then brought to full strength by the French Republic and by the German invaders.

Bitter street fighting is still going on - and street fighting is possibly the most costly form of combat. Because the attackers must run from cover to cover, while the fortified defender keeps them underfire. And the Germans, who applied the lesson of Singapore to the defense of Cherbourg will probably now be applying the costly lessons of Stalingrad in the street by street and house by house battles now taking place.

Fighting elsewhere on the tip of the peninsula is secondary - and mainly in the northwestern tip.

On the eastern flank of the Normandie front the British have begun a drive to enlarge the beachhead. An attack began yesterday and was developed this morning on a broader front.

Reporters at the front speak of terrific barrages that gave the signal for this mornings assault. Bill Downs speaks of a gun every five yards along the attacking front. ~~front Other men report long lines of Brit~~ Naval guns from ships offshore joined in the shelling. Other reporters tell of long lines of British tanks moving forward and say that the Germans have brought up armor to prevent a breakthrough. A tank battle has developed and despatches from the front say tersely that the news is good. Prisoners have been taken and the British spearhead has advanced two or three miles.

Meanwhile we hear that the Germans have succeeded in brining more troops to the Normandie front. So far they haven't been able to launch a concerted counteroffensive on a large scale -- if we have any luck at all with the weather we might still drop a couple of monkey wrenches into their plans. But there's no doubt that Rommel and Rundstedt are going to try an offensive with the means at their disposal. And there's little doubt here in London that it will be fairly soon.

In view of this and the future course of the fighting in Frane it's worth looking at the show the Germans have put up in Cherbourg. We might as well admit it - they've fought superbly. And the questionswe're trying to find the answer to is why -- and - will they keep on fighting that well elsewhere. We can't really know the exact answer to either. But as far as why is concerned - it looks as if the German High Command has succeeded in convincing the defenders of Cherbourg that their delaying action is important to German strategy - and that their fight is not in vain. -- This means, of course that discipline and respect for their leaders remains unimpaired among the troops. ~~And at the moment it looks as~~

WE THE PEOPLE HOTTELET INTERVIEWING CAPTAIN STONE 0440-0450
26 June 1944

Hottelet: The roaring of planes over a combat zone usually means death. Our bombers and fighters are merciless weapons. -- But, for the last fifteen days, the air power that's been concentrated on smashing the enemy has also been used in a work of humanity.

Since D plus four, Ninth Troop Carrier Command has been landing transport planes in France to evacuate wounded. Taking off in clouds of dust, from emergency strips and advance landing grounds only a few miles from the enemy lines - the men and women of this command have been getting casualties back to England and the best of care only hours after they were hit.

Here is one of the officers in charge of this evacuation - Captain Joseph G. Stone - in private life a physician in Cicero, Illinois.

How many wounded have you flown out so far?

Stone? In the first two weeks we brought out more than five thousand. We started off slowly, but we're running smoothly now; and last Thursday we evacuated 816.

But we're not out for records. Our job is a routine part of the war. Our transports fly in with special equipment and personnel and ammunition, and come out with wounded. Since a couple of days ago we've even started picking up gliders and bringing them back.

PRESS AND CENSORSHIP BUREAU

STONE (Cont.) The main function of Ninth Troop Carrier Command is to carry in paratroops and airborne forces. But - as you see - it works both ways. Some of the boys we dropped in Normandy on D Day have been wounded and been evacuated on the same planes that took ~~x~~ them in.

Hottelet: How many patients can a plane take?

STONE: They carry 24 with a surgical technician and an air evacuation nurse to look after them. Those nurses of ours are eager beavers. They've got a tough job, but they're as cheerful and active a gang as you could hope to find. They do an awful lot for the patients -- and I'll tell you, our soldiers on the far shore get quite a kick out of seeing American girls over there.

Hottelet: From what I've seen of them they're not only good but goodlooking enough to make anybody feel better.

But tell me, have there been more wounded than you ~~XXXXXX~~ thought there'd be?

STONE: Not at all. Casualties have been much fewer than we expected. Frankly, we'd been thinking we might have to handle four times as many as we've actually had.

Hottelet: Do younthink you'll be evacuating all wounded by air

STONE: They all want to come out by air, but it's not necessary. The surgical units and field hospitals in Normandie can give excellent care~~, and luckily they haven't been swamped with casualties at all~~.

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STONE (cont) But there are times when we might have to do it. Last week, for example, there were four days on which weather made evacuation by sea impossible. We did the job by air.

And we've got the planes and the people and the cooperation of the entire army to do it again in any emergency.

Hottelet: You've got the spirit, too ---- and the thanks of those thousands of men you've brought out again on your mission of mercy.

Thank you, Captain Joseph Stone - and the men and women of your Air Evacuation Squadrons.

We return you now to Milo Bolton and We the People, in New York.

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hottelet cbs 0515 25 june 1944

There ~~has been no new development in~~ is no fresh news in London about the Battle of Cherbourg. Fighting continues, apparently unabated. Our troops continue to inch their way forward. If there is to be a point in this battle at which German resistance will crumble, it hasn't yet been reached.

Reporters on the battlefront confirm that we now overlook the whole of the city. Some speak, already, of the"last hours" of the city; but others point out, cautiously,that there are still a number of German strong points to be reduced -- and that once these are overcome the enemy still has a choice between surrendering and fighting in the streets.

During the last two days we've been getting vivid descriptions of the German defences, and of skill and courage the American troops have shown in biting their way through them. Every hill and every vantage point was fortified. All the tricks the Germans learned in almost five years of warfare were applied in laying out the obstacles, minefields, tank traps and pillboxes to provide murderous cross fire from artillery and automatic weapons. -- There's ~~hardly~~ not been anything said of the losses we've suffered in this battle. Tonight ~~a~~ one correspondent reports that our infantry losses have been far fewer than we anticipated. Official quarters are still silent on this - as they must necessarily be at this stage of the operation.

It appears that fighting tonight is particularly fierce for a 400 foot plateau called Les Terres Rouges -- red earth. This is on the western side of the narrow, steep valley of the

Divette River.

The German High Command tonight provides a vivid - and fairly accurate picture of the fighting. It says that the fighting is heaviest ~~xm~~ on the southwest of the city, and that the American attack is mainly moving along the roads leading into Cherbourg; and goes on to say that air attacks, superheavy artillery fire and persistent rushes by surging waves of infantry and tank forces have not ceased for a single moment. ----- Step by step, the Germans say, the Americans have fought their way forward through the four ~~xxxxxx~~ openings blasted by artillery and bombs. German infantry and artillery units bypassed by the American forces have formed pockets of resistance in villages, parks, thickets and ~~xxxxxxxx~~ gullies.

Correspondents say that we've taken hundreds of prisoners in the last few hours - some of them brought in by American leaflets fired into their positions by artillery shell. It's too soon to say whether this is the beginning of a mass trend.

One of the reasons the Germans are fighting so stubbornly in an obviously hopeless situation is probably that they feel themselves part of a strategic plan. ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ Rommel and Rundstedt quite probably want Cherbourg to occupy as much of our strength as possible while they rush ~~xp~~ their strategic reserves into ~~xxx~~ Normandie. If the defenders of Cherbourg were succeeding in that their sacrifice would be very worth while -- but they're not. The Allied air forces and the French underground have made it impossible for the German command to move troops wit anything like their usual efficiency.

Our air forces are really doing damage - methodically and relentlessly. Nowadays every new SHAEF communique consists largely of names of bridges and railroad junctions not to mention the targets of opportunity -- the trains, and road convoys and troop-and-vehicle concentrations attacked by our bombers and fighter bombers.

The Germans, stung by the quick, sharp attacks of our fighter bombers sent their own fighter formations up today to guard three important transport targets. And the German radio tonight complains that their fighters must attack our fighters now because they do as much damage as bombers.

And while we send our light and medium bombers ranging deep behind the battle area, our heavies are at work too. After midnight tonight large formations of RAF bombers crossed the straits to bomb the Calais-Dunkirk area.

General Eisenhower went over to France again today - for the second time since D Day. The Supreme Commander had a talk with General Bradley, who commands the American forces; and he also managed to have a chat with several G I's. He asked one how good he was with a rifle, another what he'd do if he saw a German plane, and a third where he'd find his squad leader in case of attack. The boys were mainly so stagestruck at being face to face with General Ike that they could only mumble. -- There was one citizen, though, about six years old who knew what he wanted to say and said it. He sidled up to the grinning General and gave him the French version of "Any gum, chum".

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Hottelet CBS 0045 25 June 1944 ~~Standby~~

The battle for Cherbourg has reached an intensity that cannot last very much longer. For fifty hours now the city's defenses have been under constant heavy fire from Allied guns and planes. Our forces have captured the heights dominating the city, and the enemy has been pressed back within two miles of the center of town.

An enemy attempt to get some of his forces out of the beleaguered city by sea - the first one reported so far - has been blocked by our light coastal forces.

The Germans say that they have retired to what they call "new defense lines" on the outskirts of the city proper, after our troops breached the long prepared main fortifications on the hills outside Cherbourg.

Those are the main elements of the picture. The port is a strategic prize for us, and is being defended as such - savagely, inch by inch, to the last bullet.

For two days now American forces with the full support of their artillery and special engineer units have been hammering at the fortress. They've had support from fighter and medium bombers as weather permitted - and some day we'll hear about how much of a help it's been to have our little piper cubs swarm like gnats over the battlefield spotting for our batteries. The enemy had realized the importance of Cherbourg and had built elaborate fortifications to defend it from the land - to keep it out of our hands as long as possible.

And our forces chewed their way up. They had to climb hills. They had to bridge minefields, smoke out numerous pillboxes, clear road obstacles to get ahead. And they did.

used

The Germans fought - and are still fighting - well. They haven't lost their skill; tonight for instance, there are reports that they've turned their heavy coastal guns around to answer our own artillery.

First we cut Cherbourg off from the territory east and west of it, and established a front in an arc around the city. Then we began to compress that arc - inching through the outer fortified zone, heading for the three hills that dominate the city. We're reported to have those hills now - which means that we can observe our ~~fx~~ artillery fire as we shoot the guns.

The progress has not been exactly fast - we got a mile yesterday, and perhaps another mile today. But that will disappoint only those strategists who measure their success in miles. What is happening around Cherbourg now is significant -- significant on both sides of the scales. The main thing is that we're attacking and outslugging the Germans on a field of battle which they have held, surveyed and fortified for years. ~~Victory here~~ will mean as much to our soldiers as outsmarting and outsupplying them has meant up till now. -- But there's another point that's negative for us -- the Germans in Cherbourg are fighting better than had generally been expected. We may have mistaken intelligence on the troops there, we may merely have been overconfident. Whatever it is the Germans have shown at Cherbourg that they are not going to ~~fxxx~~ collapse - even under most adverse circumstances - until they've put up a very stiff fight.

Tonight the fighting is reported particularly fierce on the southwestern outskirts. The Germans say that the roads in this area have become important supply lines for our forces.

page three hottelet cbs 0045 standby 35 june 1944

~~Reports from the actual battle front reveal how~~ accurate our bombardment and bombing have been. Except for one large fire, the actual town of Cherbourg does not appear to have suffered much. It's too soon to say, however, in what condition we'll find the harbor areas after German demolition.

Our aircrfat have been active again today, sweeping in a three hundred mile arc behind the Normandie battle area. Our intention is ~~xxxx~~ to keep the enemy from rushing up his reserves while we have our main attention directed for the moment out at Cherbourg.

~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~

The fighting on the eastern flank - in the British sector around Caen has been proceeding successfully, too. After news of the capture of the village of St. Honorine, it's reported tonight that the British have detsroyed 20 out of 35 German tanks.

General Eisenhower visited the front for the second time today. He's seen some grim struggle, - but there's no cause for dissatisfaction on his part.

Hottelet CBS ~~1400~~ 1500 24 June 1944 standby

The German radio reports this morning that the decisive stage in the battle for Cherbourg has been reached. A Vichy radio report says that an American spearhead has reached Fort la Roule, less than a mile from the dock front. Vichy says that massed tank and infantry forces have reached this important ~~xxdxx~~ German hedgehog position, which lies in the center of the three hill positions that form the key to the port.

There is no information available in London to support these enemy stories; and in view of the bitter fighting that continues around Cherbourg it's ~~xrmhxhxy~~ better to stick to what we know from our own communique and correspondents.

WE HAVE BROKEN THROUGH THE OUTER DEFENSE ZONE + ARE ADVANCING ON the city. PROPER

The picture as seen from hereis that Cherbourg seems to be ALMOST completely surrounded on land. Our advance forces have ALMOST reached the sea on both sides of it. One correspondent speaks of the front there as a twenty mile arc sweeping around the city.

Our artillery bombardment of enemy positions has continued without interruption. And this morning better weather gave our medium bombers a chance to strike some blows of their own. The Germans speak of bombardment by allied warships to boot ~~ixxaddxxixn~~, but in London there's no information about naval action.

The Germans are fighting fiercely. And they're making use of thickly sown fortifications. Larry Lesueur probably put it most aptly when he said that we're meeting now the sort of opposition we expected to hit on D-Day. Pillboxes, minefields, road blocks - and the hilly country that climbs up to Cherbourg are being used to the full to slow us down. The Germans are also using ~~xx~~ their antiaircraft artillery

against ground targets. Which may/help explain why our Marauders this morning found exceptionally light flak over Cherbourg. ~~It does seem, though, as if the Germans were short of heavy weapons and were mainly depending on light and medium artillery x and automatic weapons on the ground.~~

Despite the fact that our troops are steadily compressing the defenders of Cherbourg into a smaller area; and despite the German admission that the place is an inferno, there ~~dxxxxxt appearztoz~~ is no immediate indication of a German morale crack up. ~~thxk~~ There are remnants of three German divisions in the city - and with various naval, air force and garrison troops - the estimate is still ~~thirt~~ around thirty thousand.

Some correspondents report that one or the other of the divisions is composed of second rate men over forty, and there are tales that officers have to ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ keep their men in the line with tommy guns. One report talks of a division of Austrians and Bavarians who dislike their German masters. STILL ANOTHER SAYS THE ENEMY IS RUNNING SHORT OF SUPPLIES. -- This sort of story should be accepted with large amounts of salt. A second rate force, or one that was held together at the point of a gun, would not be capable of giving our troops the opposition they're meeting. AND THE CITY IS WELL STOCKED WITH SUPPLIES

The Germans at Cherbourg are going to have to be outslugged, and there's little doubt in London that they will be before long.

German propaganda is beginning to talk as if the loss of the city were an aforegone conclusion. There are more stories of the immense force that is batter ing the town - the Germans claim it includes six infantry and two armored divisions.

But the most improbable story the Germans are using to sugarcoat the loss of Cherbourg is this one, from Berlin:

It says that German strategy wants to defeat the Allied armies all at once. But to do that these armies have all got to be in France, within reach on the battlefield. The loss of Cherbourg will enable the Allies to land the rest of their armies; and that will give the Germans the opportunity to defeat them at one fell swoop. ------ You can charge that one straight up to Baron Munchhausen.

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Hottelet CBS 1400 24 June 1944 standby

There has been no let up in the battle for Cherbourg. The Germans are still resisting as fiercely as before, but in spite of this resistance and in spite of the elaborate fortifications we're up against, the American forces have made progress. BERLIN REPORTS WE'VE BREACHED DEFENSE LINES IN THE SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST.

Our advanced forces have reached the sea to the east and west of Cherbourg, and the fighting is now concentrated around the city itself. From correspondents reports it looks as if the battle front were a twenty mile arc, with the center - in the south - only about two miles from the actual dock area.

Our troops advanced about a mile INTO THE GERMAN DEFENSES yesterday - a mile up hill, in the face of withering ~~[illegible]~~ fire. It looks as if the Germans weren't bluffing when they ~~daid~~ said that they had profited from the lesson of Singapore. They fortified their flanks particularly strongly, and didn't neglect their southern front. Correspondents say that the toughest fighting has been southwest of Cherbourg, where line after line of concrete bunkers and road blocks are laid out and covered by masses of barbed wire.

The Germans don't seem to have much heavy artillery left, and are depending on their light and medium guns, mortars, machine guns and even antiaircraft guns to slow us down. Our tactics seem to be to get control of three hill features overlooking the town - and it looks as if we've got two of them already.

It looks as if today our troops fighting for the city will have the benefit of good air support again. This morning Marauders went out to bomb German positions around the city. Some of the fliers who were out on the attack report that German anti-aircraft

firewas very weak. This is quite something when you think that Cherbourg used to throw up one of the heaviest flak barrages in western Europe.

AFTER WIDESPREAD AND SUCCESSFUL ATTACKS BY FIGHTER AND MEDIUM BOMBERS YEST'Y, Our heavy bombers were out in great strength early this morning, and they were reported ~~xx~~ coming back from West of Boulogne: but it hasn't been announced yet what targets they hit. THE GERMANS REPORT THAT THE BERLIN AREA IS NOW BEING ATTACKED.

Flying weather is good and ~~x~~ unloading weather is good today - both of which are particularly important at this stage of the game.

There's more news this morning from the other ground fronts. Fighting has flared up again on the eastern flank; and the British have taken the town of St. Honorine. This town is NE of Caen, and a mile east of the river Orne. The Germans have been making determined attempts to keep us penned in behind the river Orne, and even to ~~xxx~~ eliminate our bridgehead ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ on the eastern bank altogether. They've thrown tanks into the fight, and correspondents report that a tank battle is now in progress in green fields sprinkled with poppies to the southeast of St. Honorine. -- Despite fierce German counterattacks yesterday the British forces were able to advance their lines a thousand yards. Paris radio reports that the British have landed another division to reinforce this sector - and specifically to storm the town of Caen.

51 after 15 sec warning

Hottelet CBS 24 June 1944 0045 standby

The news from the Cherbourg peninsula is still of bitter fighting against a trapped and STUBBORNLY ~~bitterly~~ resisting enemy. The latest reports from the fighting front say that we have driven a wedge of two miles into the ring of defenses around the town.

It looks as if the Germans had withdrawn all their troops into the city - because American patrols probing into the northeastern corner of the peninsula are finding little opposition. WE HAVE ALREADY TAKEN THE IMPORTANT HILL OF TOURLAVILLE, EAST OF THE CITY. AND There is a German report tonight that our troops have captured the height called La Glacerie to the southeast. ~~of the city.~~ THESE ARE ~~This region of~~ the highest hills in the area, and from THEM ~~it~~ our guns COULD ~~would be able to~~ bring the whole city under direct fire, TO COVER OUR FORCES AS THEY BREAK IN. ~~It is only a bit more than two miles from the sea.~~

There is no sign in London that the fall of Cherbourg is at hand. Heavy fighting is still expected - even though it probably won't take so very much longer. The Germans, on the other hand talk as if it everything were over but the shouting.

~~Another~~ One ~~One~~ German reporter writes that the capture of Cherbourg would give General Montgomery his first invasion laurels- but that it would still only be a tactical success.

One German correspondent says that the garrison of the besieged city has not had a minutes respite during the past three days from the land, sea and air bombardment. HE SAYS WE HAVE A THOUSAND GUNS FIRING ON CHERBOURG— THE GUNS OF THREE AMERICAN DIVISIONS AND 11 SPECIAL ARTILLERY DETACHMENTS. He reports that tanks and infantry in armored carriers have broken through along the North-South road leading into Cherbourg.

In general, German propaganda is concentrating attention on the great battles being fought on the Russian front today --

and it looks as if the news of the fall of Cherbourg will be sandwiched in among hairraising stories of the socalled Battle of Europe that's started in the east.

Meanwhile the weather continues variable. This morning it closed in again, so that our fighter bombers had to ~~xxxxxx~~ carry the main load of ground support in the battle area. But later this evening the weather in France cleared up. One good thing, though - the sea has become calmer after several days in which waves of as high as five feet interfered with our unloading. But if any of you are sweltering ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ at home now, and think that it might be the same way in France, the weather man tonight tells us that our troops are almost chilly. The temperature in the straits this afternoon was a miserable 48 degrees.

~~Better visibility brought out some enemy E boats, who tried to interfere with our shipping. They were promptly dealt with by our light naval forces and by coastal command aircraft.~~

~~There is no more detailed news from the British-Canadian sector ~~xx~~ around Tilly and Caen, where local fighting continues.~~

~~Our air activity today was directed once ~~xxxx~~ more mainly against railroad targets behind the front; but our heavy bombers ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ again bombed the flying bomb installations across the channel.~~

Hottelet CBS 23 June 1944 1500

The Germans announce that our attack against Cherbourg was "resumed" this morning. According to American reports there's never been any slackening of the pressure.

Reports from the front speak of grim, yard by hard and house by house battles that are squeezing the enemy tighter and tighter inside their defense area.

There are no details available as to exactly how much ground the enemy still holds - from the rough indications available to us here it doesn't seem to be more than a couple of hundred square miles at most. And this is not very much, because it's spread out thinly along the coast of the peninsula tip. Every bit of it is within range of our artillery - but not every bit matters. It's the hard core of the port defenses at Cherbourg that's taking the pounding. Larry Lesueur, reporting from Normandie this morning, calls the town an inferno.

Yesterdays terrific air offensive against the pillboxes and armored works of the Cherbourg fortifications certainly stunned the defenders, but apparent;y didn't knock them out. The communique this morning teells how fighter bombers went in at pistol range - that means about 250 feet - to destroy pinpoint targets; and how the mediums followed up with still more explosives.

The Germans report that the siege of Cherbourg is being carried on with the help of naval guns; but there's no information available in London to confirm this. -- The Germans say that their troops are equipped and prepared to stand a siege, and that when the port finally does fall into our hands it won't be worth

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very much. -- That remains to be seen, but it's probably as empty a statement as most German excuses since the invasion began.

Elsewhere on the land fronts there has been some stiff local fighting - especially in the British-Canadian area around Tilly and Caen. Our Allies have advanced to the town of Longraye, and have again met some of the enemy's panzer forces.

On the souther flank of the Cherbourg peninsula American forces have made some local gains. -- The Germans have just reported that we have dropped parachute forces around the town of Gavray - not far from Granville at the western base of the Cherbourg peninsula. This is far to the south of the present front. No information is available ~~xx~~ in London to confirm or deny - but it looks as if the Germans are manufacturing themselves a victory. Having announced that they were dropped thay can tomorrow announce that they were all wiped out.

It looks as if the weather ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ is again interfering with our air activity this morning, after the record day we had yesterday. But the wind has died down sufficiently to ~~xxxx~~ enable us to resume unloading supplies at the normal rate.

It is now ......

...... from the north.

~~AND~~ And our bombing offensive keeps going, taking very little notice of the German stunt of using their secret weapon to divert us from our strategic purpose. ~~xxxxxxxx~~ it looks as if this strategic purpose was to wreck German transport - both rail and road. The RAF was out after railroads and fuel dumps again last night.

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There's evidence that the Germans are now wrestling with a bad shortage of motor fuels. And we're out to make it worse.

But this isn't the only operation that has helped our fighting front. General Eisenhower in a special communique this morning told how French Underground Forces have, by sabotage and guerrilla warfare occupied divisions of German troops all over France; and how two German Panzer Divisions which are needed in Normandy right now have been seriously delayed in southwestern France.

Meanwhile here in London there have been two news developments that point more to the post-hostilities period. One concern the flying bomb, which Home Secretary Morrison described in parliament this morning as a propaganda terror weapon. Mr. Morrison pointed out that it had had no military effect at all, but had just caused property damage and indiscriminate loss of life.

But more important - Mr. Eden this morning reported that 50 Allied air force officers shot by the Germans in March had been murdered in cold blood by the Gestapo. They were not shot, as the Nazis claim - in trying to escape. They were murdered after they were recaptured. Mr. Eden said that the British Government would have all those guilty of participation in this tracked down and punished.

When you think that Allied Authorities in London are right now drafting the terms for the surrender and occupation of Germany; it become plain how ill advised the Nazi leaders have been in resorting to blind rage and militarily useless terror reprisals.

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Hottelet CBS 23 June 1944 1400

American troops are still fighting hard to break into Cherbourg. They're meeting stiffer resistance as they press forward. Fighting is particularly heavy south and southeast of the town.

The enemy in Cherbourg is already pressed into a small area at the very tip of the peninsula - and our troops east and west of the port are already in sight of the sea.

Yesterdays terrific air offensive against the Cherbourg fortifications certainly stunned the defenders, but apparently didn't knock them out. The communique this morning tells how fighter bombers went in at pistol range - that means about 250 feet - to destroy pinpoint targets, and how they were followed up by the mediums.

There's no word this morning that this air offensive has been continued on anywhere near the same scale, and it's possible that the weather may have closed down again.

Yesterday's was oneof the biggest days we've ever had in the air. In the 24 hours up to five o'clock this morning, British and American air forces flew more than 6,000 sorties. The RAF out last night concentrated on fuel dumps and railroad installations that feed the German fighting front.

There's been a small American advance southward from the Cherbourg peninsula; and on the eastern sector of the front around Tilly and Caen there is still some pretty stiff fighting with German tank forces, in which the British have made local gains.

After four days of bad weather, that hindered our

unloading, the wind has dropped and our reinforcements are coming ashore more regularly.

That is the essential news from the actual battlefront; but it doesn't give the overall picture of the development of the Battle for France.

It is now completely safe to say that the German timetable has been wrecked. Since the day of invasion we've been waiting for the great German counterattack. And the Germans themselves have been making every effort to concentrate sufficient forces for a decisive counter-offensive. They started a largescale counter-attack about ten days ago, which we broke up. It was expected that they'd try another one about now - the decisive one, on which they'd pin their hopes. So far it hasn't come. Rommel and Rundstedt may still try - they probably will - but it's too late now for them to hope to have any strategic success.

There are several ~~fxxkxxx~~ things that have contributed to this state of affairs. One of the main things has been our air offensive. The blowing up of bridges and railrodds, the strafing of convoys that's gone on incessantly since many weeks before D Day is paying off. Take just one case - the blowing up of the Seine bridges compels the Germans to make a two hundred mile detour through Paris whenever they want to bring heavy equipment down from the north.

And this morning General Eisenhower gives details of another weapon we've used -- the help given us by the French Forces of the interior -- the French Underground.

In a special communique the General tells how these underground forces have been operating in accordance with Allied plans since June 10th. And these operations - conducted all over France, from the Pyrenees to the Ardennes, have really been military operations with effective results. General Eisenhower says that the French forces have contained - that is, immobilized, - elements of several German divisions and large numbers of local defense troops with tanks, artillery and aircraft. Two entire German Panzer Divisions, which Rommel badly needs in Normandie right now, have been seriously delayed in Southwestern France. ~~by the action of the French forces~~

And ~~the~~ sabotage and the obstruction ~~destruction~~ of roads, railroads, communications and even canals continues. General Eisenhower sums it up when he says -- the systematic disorganization of enemy transport by the French Forces of the Interior has contributed directly to the success of Allied operations in Normandie.

Hottelet Lead in CBS 0515 22 June

The latest news ~~in~~ of the fighting in western Europe comes from the air. It's been announced that bombers based on Britain have landed in Russia after the first shuttle bombing operation against targets in Germany or Eastern Europe.

No more details are available, either about the type of plane involved or the number in the force.

Meanwhile, tonight, Berlin reports that it's again under attack from the air

Hottelet CBS 22 June 1944 0515

The latest reports from the Cherbourg peninsula are ~~xxx~~ that our advanced forces are three miles from the city. It looks, though, as if these last miles are going to be as hard going as any we've had on the peninsula.

Correspondents on the spot report that the defences are tough. The flanks seem to be particularly heavily defended - with concrete obstacles, pill boxes, antitank ditches and other prepared emplacements. The Germans are firmly entrenched there, and Nazi propaganda is still claiming that the High Command has learned the lesson of Singapore -- namely the defense of a naval base ~~from the~~ against attack from the land to the rear.

The terrain is not in our favor there, either. The American forces are having to fight their way up hill.

There is no doubt that the intensity of the battle is mounting. ~~Our SHAEF The~~ Tonight's communique from our Supreme Headquarters puts it soberly when it says that our forces have made further progress and that the area held by the enemy is steadily diminishing. German reports are much more lurid. One account says that the small space left to the defenders has become a seething caldron - with constant artillery fire being rained on it from the south and by naval guns from the sea. This report says that mingling with the detonations of shells of all calibers are the roars of dynamite charges with which the defenders are blowing up harbor stores and installations.

Hottelet CBS 22June 1944 0515

There's no doubt that the Germans want to keep us from using the port of Cherbourg as long as possible. And their best hope of doing this is to dynamite the piers and jetties. -- But even at best, this hope is slim. They tried it in Naples - and on a large scale. But when I got to Naples, ~~afkex~~ only a couple of weeks later, we were already unloading more freight there than the port had handled in peacetime. We've learned lessons in rehabilitating ports that'll come in very handy at Cherbourg.

One factor in the enemy's defense - ~~azdzanxelemamt~~ that's as important as his fortifications - is his will to fight. And this morning -- it's after five in the morning in Normandie - this morning the Germans are being shelled with leaflets as well as with high explosive. These are the weapons of psychological warfare. They tell the ~~trapped~~ German soldier in Cherbourg that he can't possibly get out of the trap he's in, and that there's just no point in throwing ~~w~~ away his life. And the leaflets assure the enemy that we treat our prisoners honorably according to the rules of war, and that he's much better off ~~than~~ if he gives upp now.

We don't know exactly how many Germans there are ~~azbitzsfxnewszthatxpeoplezinySouthernzEngland~~ trapped on the peninsula - but the best estimate I've heard is ~~partiCularlyxgladztoxhearzfromxthe~~ that there are some 12,000 field troops and about 15, 000 garrison troops, air force ground units, naval formations and so on. The total may run as high as 30,000.

One bit of news from Cherbourg that people in Southern England are particularly glad to hear this morning is

that our forces on the peninsula have captured several launching positions for flying bombs. It doesn't appear that these positions had been used, so it doesn't make much immediate difference. But close study of these particular installations will give our air forces much useful information about how to attack the flying bomb installations in the Boulogne-Calais area.

The situation on the other ground fronts in France remains essentially unchanged, with heavy fighting on the eastern flank around Tilly and Caen.

There hasn't yet been any reliable assessment of the losses the enemy has suffered in these first 15 days of the campaign in France. Mostly the communique and the SHAEF spokesmen have talked of heavy fighting, and fluctuating, fluid fronts and let it go at that. It looks, though as if the enemy had lost many times the casualties we've had. We've already taken more than 15,000 prisoners - and the number of Germans we've killed and wounded is reliably reported to be about twice as many again. And that does not include the results of the latest fighting.

Hottelet CBS Report to Nation Capt. Gantz
22 June 1944 043:33 - 0435:30

Hottelet: We've heard about the mountains of material that have been moved - and that are being moved every day to supply our Army in France. ~~It's a terrific job that involves more than ammunition and food and equipment.~~ Many brains and many hands outside the Army keep the stuff rolling to our soldiers.

Noone has worked harder than the United States Navy to make this great conveyor belt move smoothly.

Here is Captain Ben S. Gantz, Supply Officer on the staff of the Commander Naval Forces, Europe, to give us an idea what this involves.

Gantz: Many months ago the Navy was completing its plans to help take the Allied armies across to France. The plans involved two main jobs - the first one of getting the troops to the far shore, and the second one of keeping them supplied so that they could stay there.

The first job has been done - and you've heard of the part played in it by the fighting ships of the fleets and the minesweepers; and by the landing craft unloading on the beaches under enemy fire.

The second job is still in progress - and will continue here and in other theaters as long as we have to cross water to get at the enemy.

Hottelet: What sort of thing is the Navy Supply Corps called upon to provide?

Hottelet CBS Report to the Nation 22 June 0433

GANTZ: Everythingx necessary to keep ships and landing craft operating; and to keep crews fed and clothed. This involves the supply of thousands of items. If pxxxxxxx plans are faulty, or if unforeseen emergencies arise, a two dollar spare part missing from a diesel engine could immobilize a landing craft.

That's why everything possible has been done, starting last year, to make sure that nothing is overlooked. The Naval Supply Staff at that time began collecting the things that would be required in the invasion. Goods were assembled at Naval Supply Depots - all sorts of goods from manufacturers who didn't know that their products would be landed in France -- these goods were assembled, crated and consigned to Britain. Here we used prefabricated housing to build our own supply bases. Here fuel, spare parts, food, paint, rope and the multitude of things it takes to keep a ship running were stored for the invasion fleet.

~~Then, of course, as this fleet xxxx assembled, it had to be kept in the best working condition.~~

~~That's still our job. The army has told us that we're the arteries for its life's blood of supplies. Well, these arteries are not going to be allowed to harden.~~

Hottelet: Thank you, Captain Ben S. Gantz - and now back to Report to the Nation in New Yor

Gantz (cont)

We put the soldiers ashore, but our job wasn't over.

Our naval vessels are still working day and night to follow up with supplies. We've had bad weather to contend with, and new minefields that the enemy lays with planes by night. But the job is being done.

The army has told us that we're the arteries for its life's blood.

Well, these arteries are not going to be allowed to harden.

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Hottelet CBS 1400 standby 20 June 1944

The city of Cherbourg is now under the fire of our heavy artillery, and American forces are advancing on it. They have taken the village of Rauville la Bigot, which puts us within ten miles of Cherbourg. The Germans report this morning that our troops have begun to probe the southern perimeter of the Cherbourg fortifications.

The communique from our Supreme Headquarters reveals that our advance toward Cherbourg is not the work of only one column. we've gained some ground both sides of the German stronghold of Valognes, and have gotten within two miles of it from the west.

The Germans report that Cherbourg contains the strongest fortifications we will have met in France so far, and that the fighting for the city and its port will be long and bitter. It's true that our advancing forces are now approaching the high ground - and will have more difficult going. But it's too soon to speculate on how much of a fight it's going to be. -- It is becoming apparent, though, that the Germans don't have anything like the 30,000 thousand troops which were reported to be there yesterday.

It seems for the moment as if our main offensive weight is being thrown northward against Cherbourg. But we are not leaving our southern flank uncovered - and there is no danger to the wedge which cuts off the peninsula. We have good positions there along the bank of the river Olande, and the wedge at its narrowest point is some eight miles wide.

PRESS AND CENSORSHIP BUREAU
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page two hottelet cbs 1400 standby 20 june 1944

There've been no changes on other American sectors, but farther east Allied forces recaptured the town of Tilly sur Seuilles. The most important ~~[illegible]~~ aspect of the fighting here is that we have the enemy's Panzer Divisions completely on the defensive. When you consider that a Panzer Division is designed to be the most mobile offensive unit of modern war, you can see that there - as elsewhere - we are dictating the terms of battle to the enemy.

Rommel's biggest and best ally in this campaign continues to be the weather - which ~~[illegible]~~ cut down air activity again yesterday. ~~and interfered with the unloading of supplies~~ There ~~[illegible]~~ were three layers of cloud over the battle zone, and a ground mist, and the only planes ~~[illegible] also interfered with the unloading of supplies~~ that could operate were fighter bombers./A northwest wind blew five foot waves onto the beach and interfered with the unloading of supplies. --- There are signs, though,that the weather may be better today. ~~x~~ Already this morning formations of American heavy bombers have attacked targets in Germany - the Germans say they were ~~[illegible]~~ in the

LT Hanover - Brunswick area and around Stettin on the Baltic sea,

~~[illegible]~~ Yesterday afternoon and before dark last night British and American heavy bombers ~~[illegible]~~ went to the Pas de Calais area to bomb the launching sites of the ~~[illegible]~~ German pilotless aircraft.

Today is ~~the~~ Columbia's fifth ~~day~~ war bond day. ~~[illegible]~~ Somehow a war bond drive sounds a bit strange over here - because so many people can see how directly their lives depend on what war bonds ~~[illegible]~~ buy. There's ~~[illegible]~~ Soldiers here continue to buy bonds like hot cakes - and the level of sales has been maintained despite the fact that there today a lot fewer American soldiers in Britain

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PRESS SECTION
PRESS AND CENSORSHIP BUREAU

hottelet cbs 19 june 1944 1500

The communique from supreme headquarters ~~reports~~ this morning report that ~~the~~ The American wedge across the base of the Cherbourg peninsula is being strengthened and widened. It's been expected in London ~~here~~ that there would be some violent German attempt to break ~~this~~ out again - and Larry Lesueur, reporting from the peninsula an hour ago is also expecting them. But so far there doesn't seem to be any sign of German reaction despite the fact that rainy weather is still interfering with the work of our air forces.

Both our communique and the enemy's reports agree that ~~the~~ heavy fighting has flared up again Tilly - Caumont - Villers area. Especially around Tilly the enemy is bitterly resisting our pressure and seems to have brought heavy artillery to support his armor and infantry. Nevertheless we have made small gains in the woods both sides of Tilly, around Caen and southwest of Bayeux.

That's the picture - the pressure and the initiative are still ours all along the front. The way the Germans put it is that our strategy is conservative, but ~~that~~ our tactics are tricky and inventive.

It's up at Cherbourg that the second big strategic development of the campaign is taking shape. We want that harbor - because once we have it we can unload heavy supplies direct from ocean going ships. And the Germans mean to delay our capturing the port for the very same reason. It's reported here that there are some 30,000 German troops cut off in the north of the Peninsula. It's also reported that German reinforcements have been brought over from the Channel islands. The ~~Cherbourg~~ area around the city

is heavily fortified, and should be a hard nut to crack.

The attack against the isolated German forces is already in progress from the air. Although the weather prevents our medium and heavy bombers from doing tactical work, our fighter bombers can dash in and out again practically at zero feet. ~~Rocket carrying typhoons~~ Lightnings, thunderbolts, ROCKET CARRYING TYPHOONS and the rest have been in there in force. They've attacked road convoys, bridges, ammunition dumps and troops all over the tip of the peninsula.

The isolation of the German forces there is going to give us a chance to use another wepon against them - the weapon of psychological warfare. There is no doubt that being surrounded - and thus cut off from their supply bases will not help the morale of the troops there. It is not impossible that leaflets showered down on this area will help soften resistance. All plans have been made to take immediate advantage of this opportunity.

Correspondents from the front - and particularly from the Cherbourg area reporting that the Germans are using large quantities of horse drawn transport. Some people have interpreted this to mean that the enemy's transport system is feeble and disorganized. This is not a warrantable conclusion. The German army has always used large numbers of horses - I saw thousands of them myself when I was with the German forces in France in the blitz campaign of 1940. The reason is mainly that the Germans don't have gasoline enough to motorize fully. And in Normandie now it suits their book pretty well, because horses don't involve any where near the supply and storage problem that gasoline does.

Here in London the text of a short speech has just been released, which was made by Prime Minister Churchill at a diplomatic dinner last Thursday.

The Prime Minister spoke cautiously - but optimistically. And he hinted at more operations still to come. He said that The execution of the plans made at Teheran is far from complete - and that it's being steadily unrolled. He said - and these were his words - The months of this summer may, by the victories of this Allied Campaign, bring full success to the cause of freedom."

He hit a more cautious note when he said that events would show whether it will be this year or the next.

The Germans, on their part, seem to be figuring with new developments - specifically with new landings. One commentator discusses the chances of new large scale landings on the Mediterranean front and another talks of invasion across the Straits of Dover. And it's announced that Hitler has had a conference with the naval commander of the German North Sea Coast.

German propaganda continues to plug the attacks made by their jet-propelled bomb on southern England. The more it becomes apparent that these attacks don't seem to be interfering with the consolidation of our position in France, the more lurid Goebbels' adjectives become.

OK'd for 9th A.F. A.C.
John H Day, Major A.C.

CBS: DICK HOTTELET: 0100 0130 19 June 1944

HOTTELET:

When the communique reports that bad weather over France has seriously interfered with our air acitivy, it doesn't mean that WE'RE NOT FIGHTING THE WAR IN THE SKY. ~~nobody's gone up to carry on the complex work of the air forces. No matter what the weather - no matter if there are rainstorms and ceiling and visibility are a bleak zero -- some of our men are out there doing their jobs.~~

Here in the studio are ~~four~~ FIVE men from the Eighth and Ninth American air forces. Each has a different job -- and each of them has been out doing that job since the invasion began. ~~The fact that we've had the worst spell of June weather you could ever wish not to have hasn't stopped them.~~

There's Major William P. McKnight of Gettysburg, Pa., flight surgeon with headquarters, Ninth Troop Carrier Command, who's been working at getting our wounded back to England by air.

And there's Lt. Albert H. Woods from Melrose, Mass. He flies a P-38 in the Eighth Air Force, ~~whose~~ AND HIS outfit has done more things in the past twelve days than they've ever done before.

ANOTHER 8TH AIR FORCE BOY IS LT. CHARLES W. GRACE, 1st WHO BROUGHT HIS LIBERATOR BOMBER INTO A BRAND NEW AIR-FIELD IN FRANCE FOR THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL EMERGENCY LANDING THERE.

~~And~~ here on my left is Capt. Bernard N. Thompson, from Sheridan, Indiana who's taken his Marauder over to France repeatedly ~~in the last twelve days.~~ SINCE D DAY.

And then there's Lt. Joseph E. Conklin, a New Yorker from Stony Point, and also in the Ninth Air Force, whose job

HOTTELET: (Continued)

IT IS TO KEEP AN EYE ON THE ENEMY.

~~It is to go over after the other boys have finished -- to photograph and observe what they've done.~~

First, here's Flight Surgeon, Major McKnight. What have you been doing, mainly, since invasion day?

MCKNIGHT: I've been helping set up the evacuation of our wounded from the battle zone by air. We're trying to get most of our wounded evacuated by plane; and already we're carrying out several hundred a day.

HOTTELET: How exactly does it work?

MCKNIGHT: ~~Well, say a man at the front gets wounded. He's picked up by the stretcher bearers and taken to a battalion aid station. From there he goes to a collecting company where he's tagged for evacuation by air. And then he's taken to a holding unit at an advanced landing ground, put on a plane and sent back to England.~~

MP

~~You see,~~ we follow the routine EVACUATION ~~method~~ procedure. The only thing is that we can speed it up very considerably. We can have a man back in an English hospital within six hours of his being wounded.

Some people think that we swoop down on the battlefield, dump people on planes and bring them right back. And these people have tried to glamorize our job. It's not glamorous

MCKNIGHT: (Continued)
at all - and the speed of our work is carefully controlled. ~~Because you can't just take a wounded man, dump him aboard a plane and expect to be doing him a favor by rushing him around.~~ When a man is wounded he suffers from shock and it's injurious to move him until he's recovered from that shock. This may take hours, it may take days. The value of air evacuation is in moving a man quickly and comfortably once he's fit to be moved.

~~HOTTELET:~~ ~~What~~ sort of cases do you move by air?

MCKNIGHT: We move anything, but concentrate, where we can, on the ones needing more complex care quickly ---- And we're not afraid to move serious cases, because each plane ~~of our air evacuation squadrons~~ carries a nurse and a surgical technician who can give ~~transfusions and other~~ NEEDED medical ~~attention~~ CARE during the flight.

3:05

MP

~~HOTTELET: When did you start to operate?~~

~~MCKNIGHT: We started flying them out on the Saturday after D-Day, the moment the aviation engineers had finished their first air-strip. Our transports carry plasma and drugs and other freight out to France and bring wounded back. We're increasing the scale of our operation every day.~~

HOTTELET: Are there any figures on how many lives you've saved?

MCKNIGHT: That's really impossible to say. I've heard that only one man out of a hundred is dying of wounds in France today - compared to eleven out of a hundred in the last war. ~~We're doing everything we possibly can to save our men's lives; and you've got to think of air evacuation as one of several means, not as a stunt by itself.~~

HOTTELET: ~~And while Major McKnight flies back and forth between England and France to save life,~~ young Captain Thompson ON THE OTHER HAND goes over to France with a Marauder load of ~~bombs~~ ~~DEATH.~~ DESTRUCTION. Have you been doing much flying, Captain?

THOMPSON: We haven't been doing as much as we want to. ~~but~~ The weather's been pretty tough on us.

HOTTELET: Just exactly what do you mean by that? Lt. Woods and Lt. Conklin here both say they've been out in rainstorms and other completely impossible weather.

THOMPSON: They've been able to do that because they fly some of the fastest fighter planes in the world. ~~But with a bomber it's different, even with one as good as the Marauder.~~ When ~~the~~ weather is bad it means the cloud ceiling is low. Now, we're a tactical bombing force and sometimes do pinpoint stuff just in advance of our own troops. ~~That means~~ We've got to see our target plainly before we let our bombs go -- and that means that we've got to get below any clouds that hide the target. But we're not as fast as the fighters, and the lower

5 A INSERT HOTTELET CBS 0100 to 0130 19 June 1944

Hottelet: ~~Well, from what I know of the old [illegible], and of the boys who fly her you'll be in the fight as much as you possibly can.~~ WE KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE. And you'VE ~~have xxx~~ GOT your big brothers- the heavy bombers along with you.

Here's Lieutenant Grace who went out to work in his Liberator last week, and wound up almost famous - and a mighty lucky boy. Tell us about it, Lieutenant.

Grace: ~~The heavies have been doing a lot of flying since D-Day, mostly against German airfields and communications.~~

Last Monday we were bombing an airfield near Paris when two of our engines were knocked out. [~~about on the [illegible]~~] They quit immediately and we turned around to limp back on the other two. But one of these had its oil line, and the other its fuel line cut. It wasn't long ~~xxxxx~~ before number two engine quit - and we went back a hundred miles on one engine. That poor engine had no oil, and ~~xx~~ it did conk out three times, but we managed to ~~get~~ KEEP it going.

I'd been told of an emergency landing strip being built in the British Canadian area, so I told my crew to bail out over the ~~channel~~ BEACH and then went in to land.

~~The men were still working on the strip, but a sentry on guard against snipers fired his Bren gun in the air and they saw me and scattered.~~ As we came in I hit a bulldozer ~~[illegible]cked it~~ WITH # 1 PROP. --- But the British officer in charge was very nice. He said he'd have given his other bulldozer to see us come in all right.

THOMPSON: (Continued)

down we come the more vulnerable WE ARE ~~are we~~ to anti-aircraft fire. As it is, we've bombed at 2,000 feet several times since D day which is awfully low for a B-26. ~~But we stand by all the time, and can get off the ground within an hour of getting a call.~~

HOTTELET: ~~Well, from what I know of the old Marauder, and of the boys who fly her, you'll be in the fight as much as you possibly can.~~ Meanwhile the fighters are doing a giant size job. ~~on the enemy. Just as one illustration, look~~ LISTEN TO what Lt. Woods has been doing - he and his P 38 are practically a one man tactical air force.

WOODS: ~~We've been trying to keep the heat on the enemy and I think we've fairly well succeeded, too.~~ Since D day I've ~~flown~~ flown 20 or 21 missions - which is about 50 hours of combat flying.//

We're in the Eighth Air Force, and our job up to D day had been to escort the heavy bombers. But since then we've been doing nothing but bombing communications, strafing, droop snooting and generally making trouble for Jerry.

HOTTELET: What do you mean -- droop snooting?

WOODS: That's what we call level bombing. We do a lot of that - mainly against railroads and marshalling yards.

HOTTELET: Has the weather given you much trouble?

WOOD:S It certainly has. Especially in bombing. They're hanging bombs on us now as if we were a fortress; and sometimes we ~~go~~ HAVE TO GO down to 2,000 feet to dliver them, the way we did yesterday. The flak is murder, and if it weren't for our speed we'd never get away.

H[illegible]ELET: What about German fighters?

WOODS: I'll tell you, I've noticed that they're more aggressive than they have been. ~~They used to sit upstairs and look and run. Now they ~~jump us~~ brawl in swarms of about a hundred. (which means they outnumber us on the spot) and elbow each other out of the way to get into a fight.~~ BUT Our planes are still better than theirs, ~~are, though,~~ so it's not tragic.

HOTTELET: I guess the man to ask for his observations is really Lt. Conklin. He's a tactical reconnaissance pilot. ~~and he's been on 8 deep penetrations since D Day looking for targets and trouble behind the German lines.~~ What have you seen, JOE ?

CONKLIN: ~~Well, at first there weren't many signs of Germans in the rear of the invasion area. Soon, though we began to see German troop movements in the area, and every day since, we've found more of them - despite their good camouflage.~~ It's our job to report ENEMY movements and concentrations, so that

CONKLIN: (Continued)

they can be attacked as soon as possible. I haven't seen any large scale troop movements. There've been some concentrations of railroad cars, but ~~they were~~ WE reported THEM to our bombers [redacted] and that was that.

HOTTELET: I guess you've worked harder since D Day than you've ever done in your life.

CONKLIN: You guessed right. [redacted]. But it's been fun.

HOTTELET: ~~I guess~~ I'LL BET you had the most fun in shooting down your first German fighter -- the first German plane shot down on invasion day?

CONKLIN: Sure, that was all right. But I was thinking more of the fun of being in there swinging together with the boys on the ground.

Hottelet: In addition to pointing out targets to our bomber command, you also assess the damage our bombs do. [~~[illegible] for the artillery~~] ~~in your spare time.~~ Is that right?

Conklin: Yeah.

Hottelet: Well, give us an assessment of some damage.

Conklin: All right, take the Seine bridges for instance. You know how important they are to the Germans for moving reinforcements up into Normandie. ~~It's a pleasure to see the job we've done on them.~~ WELL, WE'VE GIVEN THEM A TERRIBLE PASTING. And when the Germans ~~[illegible]~~ TRY to rebuild ~~a particularly~~ AN important bridge - we give the tip off and our bombers come in and do the same job over again.

****

Hottelet: There you have it. These are the type of men who keep the wings of our air power sweeping on to victory.

zThank you gentlemen of the Eighth and Ninth United States Army Air Forces.

BBC

Hottelet CBS 18 June 1944 21:42 - 21:50

Early last week I was in France observing the men of our Army in both American sectors. The more I saw the more I was impressed with the quality of our soldiers and of the tools they took with them into battle.

Standing on the beach, watching ships and landing craft disgorge ever more materiel - seeing how it streamed up the slope to the dewaterproofing areas; and how the landing ships then backed away to make room on the beachfront for others-- standing there it seemed as if a human tide had been set in motion.

And, as I turned away to go back to my jeep, I met the man who has done as much as any other to create and control this force.

In describing Lieutenant General John C. H. Lee, commanding the Communications Zone, European Theater of Operations, U.S. Army it's not graphic enough to say that he's a soldier and the commander of hundreds of thousands of men.

Listen to the way he once described himself to Edward R, Murrow. Ed had asked what the General did before he went to West Point. The General answered: "Well, Ed, before I went to West Point I worked in Rockwell's grocery store in Junction City, Kansas and delivered groceries. I'm still trying to deliver the goods, only now it's for General Eisenhower."

General Lee.

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PRESS AND CENSORSHIP BUREAU

page two hottelet cbs 18 june 1944 2142

You have heard Lieutenant General John Lee.

We return you now to New York, where, in just a moment, the broadcast of ~~xxx~~ a concert by the New York Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra will be resumed.

46^{00} - 49^{00}

Hottelet CBS 18 June 1944 0045

The news from the battlefront in France continues good - but there have again been no great changes. What developments there have been are in our favor.

Reports from the actual front are ahead of the official communique again tonight, and give the news that American forces are well on their way to cut off the Cherbourg peninsula. These reports say that the town of St. Jacques de Nehou, three miles north-west of St. Sauveur, was taken this afternoon.

There's been another report from the front to the effect that German columns have been seen moving south - as if they were evacuating the peninsula. In London it's ~~considered quite possible that southward movement was observed, but it's~~ felt to be highly unlikely that the Germans would evacuate the peninsula. The Germans now in and around the city of Cherbourg will probably stay there - the way other Germans stayed at Stalingrad and at Sevastopol. Because one of the immediate goals of German strategy ~~is~~ MUST BE to keep us as long as possible from capturing and using the great port of Cherbourg.

~~It's quite possible that the only remaining road up the peninsula is blocked for heavy German traffic - which means that the peninsula is already out for all practical intents and purposes.~~

One interesting piece of information is that the 82nd American airborne division, which captured St. Sauveur is now also reported to have captured St. Jacques. It's a tribute to the toughness of our troops and to the quality of their leadership that this division, which has been in the thick of the fighting since the

very beginning, should still be ~~xxxxxx~~ fresh enough to form the spearhead of a new attack.

The communique tonight doesn't confirm these fresh advances, except for St. Sauveur; but says that we've pushed ahead in Normandy. In the area south of Isigny we've advanced two miles to the Vire et Taute canal. And ~~in~~ farther east we captured villages BOTH SIDES ~~East and west~~ of Tilly. Although no advances are reported from other sectors, it doesn't mean that they're inactive. The constant probing and skirmishing by both sides continues.

Bad weather cut down our air activity in the early part of today, but fighter bombers were out attacking bridges, convoys and railroads.

~~xxxxxxxx~~ This afternoon General Eisenhower ~~issued a special communique which~~ revealed that our air forces haven't been the only ones engaged in bridgebusting and attacks against other pinpoint targets. Since June sixth they've had the help of the French underground, who've dynamited bridges and railroad tracks, cut telephone lines and cables, blocked canals and ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ even taken German prisoners in guerrilla operations. The extent and value of these efforts is enough to warrant the first special communique issued by the Allied Commander in Chief.

The Germans have been very quiet about the progress of the battle of France. They've been devoting their full lungpower to shouting about their secret weapon. They say London has been bombarded without interruption for two days and nights -- ~~which is just foolish~~; and that fires ~~are~~ burning in London are visible 130 miles away - ~~which is even more foolish.~~

The ~~EKM~~ purpose of these tales is obviously to encourage the German people.And judging from the fact that special broadcasts relay them to the German army in the field, it's safe to guess that some encouragement is necessary there too.

I return you now to GE in N.Y.

Hottelet CBS 17 June 1944 1400

The night has brought no great changes on the French battle front. The story again is one of attack and counterattack, in which the allies have held their ground at some points and have made some progress at others.

The main advance has continued to be in the Cherbourg peninsula, where a detachment ~~crack airborne outfit~~ fought its way into the town of St. Sauveur le Vicomte. This town is astride the last remaining railroad line to Cherbourg, ~~and~~ If it's held -- and there's no reason to suppose we won't hold it -- the Germans in the tip of the peninsula are cut off from heavy supply.

Reuter

There are indications that our advance in this sector is proceeding on a ~~fairly broad~~ front/stretching south for ~~of~~ several miles ~~with another column heading toward the other important road junction of La Haye.~~

Elsewhere in the American zone, there doesn't seem to have been much change at the other spearheads of ~~places like~~ Montebourg and Carentan.

As a matter of fact the only other advance along the entire French front is reported from the area of Caumont - Tilly on the east. And there allied forces have made local gains. The enemy has been/unsuccessfully counterattacking on our eastern flank - in the region of Caen and Troarn.

It would be wrong to/try to measure the success of these last few days in terms of places taken or miles advanced. What mattersat the moment ~~in an understanding of the situation~~ is the intensity of the fighting and/also which side holds the initiative. ~~And when you look at it that way it becomes apparent that~~ today's stable front is by no means even a temporary stalemate. We are not digging in --

hottelet   cbs   17 june 1944   1400

~~wexhavexnoxintentionxx~~ static trench warfare has no place in our plans. We are keeping the fighting mobile - probing the enemy's weak points, and making the enemy use his reserves to plug and patch little breaks instead of concentrating them for a great counter attack.

We've got the initiative, and that's what counts. Even with the terrible weather that's been Rommel's best ally since invasion day, we've been able to ~~keepxpace~~ match the enemy's reinforcements - and more. The trouble with the weather is that it's given the Germans the air protection their Luftwaffe couldn't provide and has enabled them under cover of night - and of cloud and rain to move reserves up.

Fortunately this same tough weather hasn't been able to stop the work of our BUCO - or Build Up Command - in bringing more and more of our men and material over the channel.

And, equally fortunately, there've been just enough breaks in the bad weaher to give our air forces a chance to do very valuable work. Last night the Ninth Air Force went out after the usual tactical targets; and - just to make the Germans realize that the Reich itself is still in the operational zone - a very strong bomber force of the RAF attacked a synthetic oil plant in the Ruhr last night while Mosquitoes dropped some 4,000 pound bombs on Berlin.

Meanwhile the Germans have been trying to make it look as if their secret weapon were revolutionizing air warfare. They're coming out with lurid accounts of London and Southampton and other places in southern England being shrouded in smoke and flame.

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The reason for these fanciful stories is obviously to jolt the German people out of the disappointment over our successful invasion. And judging from the fact that most of the tallest tales of the success of the secret weapon are broadcast to the German troops its safe to guess that some encouragement is necessary there too.

The chances are our next reports of successful advance will come from the Cherbourg peninsula. Meanwhile here's one from that same sector about an American paratrooper who made a more or less successful retreat. He was dropped in the St. Sauveur area on D-day and had been there since. When our troops were advancing toward the town yesterday he spotted them and ran back to greet them. He noticed that, while they were glad enough to see him, they wouldn't come too close. The reason was that he had run out of his emergency rations a couple of days before and had since been living on raw onions.

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Hottelet CBS 16 June 1944 1500

Now that the first novelty of the German secret weapon - the pilotless, jet-propelled airplane - has worn off a bit, people here are beginning to ask where it fits into the invasion picture. The answer is hard to find - there doesn't seem to be very much point to it.

If the Germans intended to scare people in London and S. England into a panic by dropping these things at random they were wrong. And if they expected them to be a terrific surprise either to the authorities or to the man in the street they were equally wrong.

As far as the man in the street goes, my milkman assured me solemnly early this morning - before there was any sort of an announcement - that the raiders were pilotless planes. And the police problem in southern England this morning is not to calm hysterics, but to keep curious citizens off the streets while antiaircraft guns try to bring the raiders down.

And as far as defense tactics are concerned, - well the radio-controlled plane is not presenting any particular headache We aren't allowed to say what countermeasures are being taken, but they're sufficient and should be effective.

It may be that the Germans figured to do some damage with the new weapon. If so, it's been a complete failure from the military point of view. What seems most likely an explanation, is that the enemy is trying to use this weapon - use it before it's even out of the experimental stage - just to strike a blow. He probably figured that he had his emplacements built on the other sid of the channel, and he had a certain amount of these machines - an

so he might as well go ahead and use them.

The machine itself is/reported to be about the size of a fighter plane, and to be able to carry not xx much more than a ton of explosives. It can be detected and shot down the way any ordinary fighter can - perhaps more easily because it's blind.

So, xx both as far as quality and as far as tactics go - if this is the secret weapon which the Germans boasted would smash the invasion - they'd better look around for another one.

In France, the front seems to be fairly static. CBS Correspondent Larryx Lesueur talking from the Cherbourg peninsula lessthan an hour ago saidx that fighting in the Pont L'Abbe and Montebourg sectors xx is very heavy. This seems to be the case along the rest of the front, too; and we've got the picture of xxxxx intense, fluid fighting in the framework of a geographically stable front.

From all available indications it probably won't be this way so very much longer. The cautious xxxxxx SHAEF communique this morning says that our striking power grows steadily. And German sources make a guess at what this means xxxxxxxxxxxx when they report/this morning, that we already have 400,000 men ashore in France.

The Germans say - and it sounds pretty feasible - that our three immediate objectives are: to take the port of Cherbourg, to take the communications center of Caen, and to capture more elbow room xxxxxxxx to maneuverx in.

The enemy reports that our naval artillery has been shelling Caen and has reduced the city to ruins. He also confirms determined fighting on the ground.

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hottelet cbs 16 june 1944 1500

saying that a new British armored divisions has been thrown into the fighting between Tilly and Caumont. A German High Command report just out says that farther west, to the north of St. Lo, American forces have continued strong pressure and have made a small penetration at a place called St. Andre, four miles northeast of St Lo.

All the operations being carried out on the ground are getting excellent support from our air forces. Especially on the Cherbourg peninsula, medium and fighter bombers have been attacking the usual road and rail communications and concentrations.

The airfields and landing strips our Aviation Engineer command laid down in France during the first week are beginning to pay dividends. Already some of the targets for the tactical air force are being picked for it by commanders in the field.

And now, weep a tear for one of the invasion's minor tragedies - Pvt. Charles Schmelz of Pittsburgh. Private Charles wanted to get into action fast on D Day, so he stowed away in a glider bringing airborne troops to France. He landed with them and fought his way out with them. And then he came back to England - not to glory and medals, but to the guardhouse for being AWOL.

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Hottelet CBS 16 June 1944 0045

ADD:

The news of the American bombing of Tokio has just arrived. There's been no chance for any reaction to this, but the news earlier tonight that we had bombed Japan has made people almost as excited as you must be.

It's not making anyone think that the war will be over tomorrow, but it does highlight the solid strength we have that will assure victory.

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PRESS AND CENSORSHIP BUREAU

Hottelet CBS 15 June 1944 0045

It looks as if the first phase of the German counteroffensive is in progress. There's no reason for pessimism. Our foothold is firm, and our reinforcements of men and equipment of all kinds continue to stream ashore. ---- It even looks -- and this is remarkable -- it even looks as if the weight of our reinforcement going over the channel is more than keeping pace with the German reinforcements coming over land into the battle area.

~~already~~ The Germans claim that we already have at least ~~15~~ 23 and probably 25 divisions in France. It remains to be seen how accurate this is, but in any case our services of supply can take credit for an achievement that borders on the phenomenal.

And we have another asset that was won for us by the operational planners. We are fighting on what is known as the interior line. We can move our reserves and select the point of our attack from a central point, as if from the hub of a wheel. The Germans have the exterior lines which are under constant air attack to boot.

Right now we're in the second of the critical periods -- the actual invasion was the first -- and it's expected that in perhaps ten days or so we'll meet another and ~~perhaps~~ maybe the most critical phase of the fighting. By that time the Germans will have been able to get still more reserves to the front. Which doesn't worry anyone here in London, because ~~we~~ the Allies have more strength - and more tricks - up our sleeves than we've shown so far.

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far from demoralized; and we've also begun to get some reaction in the air. Our bomber and fighter forces have met a couple of groups of 30 to 50 German fighters. One American fighter pilot said today that the Germans seemed to be looking for a fight in the air for the first time, and that ~~they~~ some of them were flying a very fast new Messerschmitt fighter.

The Germans in their various reports tonight confirm that fighting is heavy all along the front and says that German troops are suffering very heavy losses.

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Hottelet CBS 16 June 0045

There has been little change in the situation in France during the last 24 hours. The news today is mostly of bitter fighting on both flanks and in the center.

On the western flank American troops have captured the town of Quineville, and have thus gotten another stretch of beach which will be useful for the landing of additional reinforcements in this area. So far, though, the town and the beach are still within range of enemy artillery.

On that same flank, our forces driving toward Valognes and Cherbourg are still fighting in the streets of Montebourg. A German report this afternoon said that the enemy was already blowing up the harbor installations of Cherbourg; but there's no confirmation available at SHAEF that this is being done or that the Germans are in anyway preparing to evacuate the peninsula. It looks as if there's still some hard fighting ahead in that area.

Farther down on that same front American forces have made slight progress toward the Germans' last road to Cherbourg. Our progress there is roughly on a ten mile front.

Around Carentan and especially over on the left flank of the front, in the Tilly area there's been very heavy fighting. We have held our own and even made some slight progress.

It's been a big day in the air, though, with all classes of bombers attacking communications and concentrations in and behind the battle area - and even as far south as Bordeaux.

The enemy is showing on the ground that he's

Hottelet CBS 15 June 1944 1400 ~~STANDBY~~ used 390

The German radio this morning reported that the battle on the invasion front had reached the decisive stage, which will influence the whole future course of the fighting; and that the German army knows it is now a question of life or death.

This is probably too pat a description of what's going on in France right now, but it does reflect the seriousness of the days that lie ahead.

Now, nine days after the invasion, it's no longer a question of our spearheads clashing with German spearheads and tactical reserves at various points along a beachhead.

The fight now is being carried ~~out~~ on for strategic objectives; and the weight of infantry and armor in ~~battle~~ combat on both sides makes it clear that the second of the important actions of the Battle of France is now in progress.

This is the way the situation stands this morning:

In general there has been very heavy fighting at several focal points along the roughly ninety mile front. Both we and the Germans have had local successes and setbacks that serve to underline the bitterness of the struggle - really heavy fighting always fluctuates. And both we and the enemy have brought up more reinforcements.

The main center of fighting is on the left or eastern flank where allied infantry and armor face more than four German panzer divisions, most of ~~whom~~ which have now been committed. Here we have lost the town of Villers Bocage, which we had occupied yes-

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terday. But although the weight of enemy opposition has halted our forward progress here, it hasn't weakened our offensive effort. A German correspondent reports that British forces attacked there yesterday with aboutxa hundred tanks and many troop carriers at 30 miles an hour. Both sides have built up their artillery, and reports coming in from the front now tell of heavy artillery duels. One report syas that Allied bombers came roaring over in a perfect blue sky this morning to bomb enemy concentrations.

This is obviously a major battle for the communications center of Caen. It will not be decided in a day.

Farther to the west, where the front curves up into the Cherbourg peninsula around the town of Carentan, American troops have pushed the reinforced Germans back farther away from the town in a vicious sequence of attack and counterattack. From here to a point about nine miles to the northwest our forces are pressing slowly ahead toward the other side of Cherbourg peninsula. This is the way to the strategic objective of cutting off thepeninsula entirely, and for this reason we can expect sharp German reaction. Already German reinforcements are trying to get into this area and are being pounded by our bombers. The desisive battle of this particular action has still to be fought, but it probably won't be long in coming.

Farther to the north the Germans - who are reported to have brought reinforcements over from the island of Jersey - forced their way back into Montebourg to block the path of our spearhead toward the port of Cherbourg. Fighting is now going on in the streets.

It looks as if the first phase of the German counter-

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offensive is in progress. There's no reason for pessimism. Our foothold is firm, and our reinforcements of men and equipment-of-all-kinds continue to stream ashore. --- It even looks and this is remarkable - as if the weight of our reinforcement over the channel is keeping pace with the German reinforcements coming in over land.

Return your [illegible] to Allen Jackson in New York

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Hottelet CBS 1200 15 June 1944

In France the heaviest fighting continues along the twenty mile front between Tilly and Caen. Here the Germans, who had four panzer divisions in there yesterday, have brought up more reinforcements under cover of night.

It looks as if the first phase of Rommel's counterattack is in full swing there. And, from reports reaching London this morning, the Allied forces have held their ground.

This morning's communique says that heaviest fighting took place yesterday in this area and also in the center and on the right flank of our great arc - at Carentan and Montebourg. ~~It looks as if Rommel~~

The German counterattack made slight progress on the extreme flanks - the enemy penetrated into Montebourg and recaptured Villers Bocage. But in the center, around Carentan, ~~the~~ American airborne and armored forces met the German attack and pushed the enemy back a couple of miles to the south and southwest of the town.

Meanwhile - and this is information as important as the news of the fighting - meanwhile we are continuing to pour reinforcements ashore. Even the conservative communique says ~~that~~ this morning that the unloading of troops and stores is steadily increasing.

~~last night~~ Late yesterday evening RAF bomber command carried out a heavy attack while it was still light. The target was E boat pens in LeHavre. In recent nights E boats had been causing our landing forces some annoyance, and YESTERDAY EVENING ~~last night hundre~~ds

at 10:30 yesterday evening and again at 1:30 this morning hundreds of Lancasters, [redacted] attacked the base using some 12,000 pound bombs.

Yesterday the British second tactical air force and the American ninth Air Force acted in close support of our ground troops in the general area of Carentan - attacking vehicle movements, airfields, locomotives, marshalling yards and enemy concentrations.

It will be worth while keeping an eye on this Carentan area during the next few days. Because from Carentan to a point about nine miles north at a place called Pont L'Abbe our troops yesterday pressed slowly but steadily ahead to the west. We can expect some sharp German reaction to this advance - perhaps even sharper than ~~the~~ their counterattack yesterday ~~by the enemy~~ at Carentan. Because ~~one thing Rommel cannot allow~~ along these nine miles of front we're pressing gradually to cut off the Cherbourg peninsula. And that is one development the Germans cannot allow. Once we have the port of Cherbourg - and are able to unload large ships coming directly from America not even Rommel could still believe that there'd be any stopping us.

Already the language of the German reports of the fighting reflects uncertainty and pessimism at the way the battle is going for them. They're beginning to use the same sort of talk that they used to describe their retreat in Russia - phrases like "elastic defense" and "cautious use of reserves"; and they're saying how clever they are in giving up towns like Carentan instead of hanging on to them for pure prestige. But even so they've already admitted to their people that the German army must seek defense in depth because it's impossible to throw the allies back into the sea.

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LEAD ~~AND INSERT~~ HOTTELET CBS 14 June 1944 1500

Aflash just in says that Allied troops have taken the towns of Caumont and Villers-Bocage. Bocage is almost 20 miles inland, southwest of Caen. It's the deepest point of our penetration so far.

We've gotten a report from Bill Downs, CBS correspondent with the British forces, who says that British and American material is pouring through ~~the~~ a gap in the German lines like water down the drain.

Hottelet CBS 14 June 1944 1500

~~It looks now as if the Germans have started the first phase of their great counterattack. They've been trying to strike counterblows in three key sectors of our advance,~~

on the left flank, in the British-Canadian area ;

The three focal points of fighting at the moment are on the extreme right flank, where American forces are driving toward the city of Cherbourg; and down farther near Carentan and St. Lo, where American troops are heading west to cut off the Cherbourg peninsula. ~~on the left flank~~ ~~The other point is in the British-Canadian area around Caen.~~

The Germans seem to be attempting a [illegible] ~~This~~ concentric attack ~~is~~ [illegible] obviously ~~designed~~ intended to keep us from further expanding our base in France while the Germans struggle to bring up more reserves for the decisive battle. This decisive battle will probably not be very long in coming; because as we keep spilling out farther and farther day by day even the Germans realize that their hopes of striking a crippling blow fade away.

Already it seems wrong to speak of our base in France as a beachhead. Not only because it extends over nearly a thousand square miles; but because of the magnitude of the installations we have already set up there. I spent the last couple of days in France, and already the hectic improvisation that characterizes any large-scale landing had given way to methodical and settled operation.

We have heavy building equipment ashore, and are able to repair roads and build ways to speed the unloading of still more stuff that goes on around the clock. Today we have at least one airfield covered with wire mesh which will allow bombers and fighter

bombers to operate as if they were in England. This sort of airfield, and the emergency landing strips and rearming and refueling strips already in operation will stand as a lasting tribute to the skill and courage of the men of the Ninth Aviation Engineer Command who built them. -- And, speaking of base operations, there's a weather service and Army Post Office already functioning in France. ~~And all we need there to be completely independent of England is a good port~~ We're already dug in deep and digging in deeper all the time. All we need to be almost completely independent of England is a good port, but even so we're already unloading Liberty ships onto the beaches.

I went down to one of the focal points of fighting at Carentan yesterday afternoon and got the impression that the Germans - even though they fight as well as they did there - won't be able to hold us up for long. The Germans had prepared positions on the outskirts after we threw them out of the town day before yesterday, and then they brought up reinforcements for the counterattack. It was no surprise to us. We had light and heavy tanks and infantry concentrated in the town and anticipated the German thrust. Our naval guns joined in the battle, and there was no doubt as I left that it was going in our favor.

As day after day of fighting goes by it becomes plain that our soldiers have met the German on his own home field and are outslugging him. Last month when the Germans were being kicked around in Italy they [redacted] promised that it would be different in the west. Well it isn't very different - as a matter of fact, [redacted] the fighting in France will [redacted] CERTAINLY not drag out as long as the campaign in Italy, because the country over which we're fighting is much better

than the terrain we had to wrestle with ~~in Italy.~~ down there.

~~The this~~ the first week of fighting in France has exploded ~~another~~ one German claim - which was that the German veterans would wipe the floor with our inexperienced soldiers. ~~Well~~, our soldiers are already as much at home in the field as if they had spent years in war. I didn't get into the British and Canadian sector, but I drove over most of the American areas. Our men look good. Camouflage discipline is fine - troops and vehicles hug the cover of trees and hedges and drape themselves with netting even though there aren't any German planes around at all. The men have found ~~out~~ that living in foxholes can be quite pleasant - It isn't anywhere nearly as wet in France as it was in England - and lining the foxhole with grass and branches and stretching the shelter half across the top makes it almost snug.

Everything is orderly - The Germans have left mines all over the area, but They're taped and cleared without much trouble. We've learned how to deal with booby traps, and organizing posses for the snipers the Germans have left behind is almost a sport. The MP's handling traffic work as smoothly as a New York cop - and in 24 hours of driving I didn't meet one traffic jam, as munitions and reinforcements moved forward and empty trucks and wounded and prisoners moved back.

The men eat regularly and well. It's only in the foremost front line, or when they're moving fast, that they can't get a hot cooked meal. And everywhere you see the superb equipment that's made the American the best equipped army that ever went into battle. Labor saving

machinery is taking the load off the soldier's back. Our uniforms are proving very comfortable and well thought out for field use - and just in case worst comes to worst every man has a complete set of gasproof clothing.

Two things have given our soldiers a great lift. One was the success of our first landing, and the second is the phenomenal job our airforces have done. Driving along the road past Issigny I saw a couple of jobs our bombers had done on concentration areas. One place had been a wood. When we passed it was just a couple of acres of craters - there weren't ten square yards anywhere that hadn't been churned up to a depth of ten feet. Nothing was left alive.

The town of Issigny had been a German concentration area too, until our bombers and ~~naval shell~~ artillery went to work on it. Now it's a shambles. -- But luckily a destroyed town is almost the exception. In most only windows are broken, and an occasional house hit. And there are lots of lucky people, like M. Duchesne, the barber of St. Marie du Mont, who can't get over the wonder of his big plate glass windows being intact.

Out in the country you see a dead cow here and there lying bloated and stifflegged in the green pasture, and the farmhouse may be shot up if the Germans used it as a machinegun nest - but likely as not it's as good as ever.

Hottelet CBS 13 June 1944

This is Richard C. Hottelet in London

Three hours ago I was still in France. In two days I drove over most of the American-held area south of the Bay of the Seine and on the Cherbourg peninsula.

Driving all day over the dusty French roads, getting caught in convoys, and struggling slowly over filled in craters and ponton bridges doesn't give you much of a chance to follow the grand strategy. Your knowledge is too sketchy, and you can't fit the details together too well. But one thing you do pick up - and that's the feel of the Army.

Looking at the beachhead on a map of Europe makes it ~~seem~~ APPEAR what it is - a very small place. And knowing that the enemy has some sixty divisions against us in Western Europe makes it clear that it's still a very tough fight. But, eating with the troops, and lying in ditches with them - coming across with new supplies for them - and getting a glimpse of the leadership that's directing the operation makes it completely selfevident that we're on our way. Those men of ours are not going to be stoppedby anythingthe Germans DO. ~~put in their way.~~

This afternoon I watched part of a tough fight - the fight to clear the Carentan area. It won't go down as one of the great battlesof this war. But it's one of the series of short, sharp engagements that are being fought at various pointsin Normandie for important road junctions and towns.

A day or two back our advance forces went into Carentan. They didn't clean the enemy out right away. They pushed him out gradually, and he left some of snipers in the town. And he also kept

lobbing artillery shells in~~toxthextaxxx~~. Looking at lines on a map it seemd that the town was open, and communications well established with the other American beachhead. But it wasn't so. Our transport still had to be rerouted.

As a matter of fact we tried this morning to take that road into the other area and were stopped by shells that burst embarrassingly close.

Well, by this afternoon the picture had changed. The multitudinous wheels of staff work had ground out a solution to an unsatisfactory situation. And/as we rode into Carentan again this afternoon we met a young lieutenant driving out in a jeep. We asked him how things were going. He said ~~that~~ his men were pretty tired of holding Jerry with light weapons. We told him to look around - he did and his eyes lit up. There, in the area, was some stuff/and it wasn't light stuff ready to move in to clean the Germans out of~~x~~ even artillery range of the main road. The lieutenant said he had never seen a more beautiful sight.

It wasn't long before the preparatory barrage began to fall, on~~t~~ the German positions. Even warships in the Bay of the Seine joined in with their heavy artillery from ten and more ~~x~~ miles away. And then, with their sleeves rolled up the heavy equipment moved into the battle. Late this afternoon I heard from someone who'd been over it that there were no more German shells falling on the road leading north out of Carentan.

There's one thing you learn when you go over to the "far shore" - which is the military term for France at the moment. You learn that you haven't got a place just because your troops

are beyond it. The Germans try to leave snipers behind in every sector they evacuate. And there are roads now, six and seven miles behind our lines where snipers are active at night - and potshots taken at single individuals and vehicles passing in daylight.

On our way out this morning we were driving along a road when we saw a group of Americans crouching alongside a hedgerow. We pulled up and asked what the score was and were told that they thought they had a tough sniper cornered in a field. There were some other men around in there right now beating for him. I couldn't see a thing - which is the trouble with the roads in Normandie. They're all bordered by high hedges which cut the fields into neat little parcels; and they provide snipers with millions of badger holes from which they can shoot. On the way back they were still after the sniper, even dropping occasional mortar shells where they thought he was. It was on that same rotten little road that a bullet pinged off our truck.

These snipers are a trick the Germans picked up in Russia - where their advancing lines of supply were repeatedly hamstrung by guerrilla warfare. But, while it's annoying in France, it's not more serious than a nuisance. Here and there a lonely MP on a road, or a signal corpsman stringing line is shot by a sniper. But soldiers stationed in the area quickly organize posses ~~posses are then quickly organized~~ - in old western fashion; and the snipers are ~~flushed~~ CLEANED out without diverting any of our forces.

Snipers are one of the things that will ~~leave their~~

~~[illegible]~~ remain in the memory of this French campaign. But, unless the enemy springs some ~~[illegible]~~ surprises, ~~[illegible]~~ snipers'll be his main contribution to the memory book. His other efforts - while they're determined and skilfull, and may give him tactical successes now and then - his other efforts are routine stroke and counterstroke. The things that I'll always remember of this first week of fighting in France are the various elements of Allied victory:- the different impressions that come together into the one conviction that we have an outfit that can't lose.

I vaguely started getting ~~this impression~~ these impressions on my way to a British ~~[illegible]~~ port to get aboard an LST for France, On the road, going down, was armed strength in enormous quantities. Men, ammunition, weapons all streaming down to the port - pouring in on a clockwork schedule, going down along certain roads, stopping at certain resting places, going into isolation in certain areas and rolling aboard the landing ships at the hour fixed for them some weeks before by a colonel in a London office. And this makes it sound downright simple - because on the way/in addition these men have waterproofed their vehicles in case they have to wade ashore; and they've had their gasproof clothing issued. They have been given rations and cigarettes and insect powder for lice and bedbugs they may pick up. They've gotten pills to keep them from being seasick and special paper bags to vomit into in case they do.

~~And it is this~~ By this time you've stopped marvelling at the quality of our actual military equipment - the trucks and tanks, and the exotic things like ducks and weasels and alligators. It's the careful attention to detail - the packing of chewing gum and cigarettes

into the field rations that gets you.

And the profusion. You're in one of many convoys of scores of ships on the way over - big and little ships loaded to the gunwales. It's not quite a milk run. You get occasional reminders that you're not on the peace time ferry to France. The LST ahead of us in convoy hit a mine and sank. But even when these things sink - as they do only occasionally - they sink in a big way, with destroyers and corvettes anc cutters and launches elbowing around them to catch even a handkerchief that may be lost overboard.

You expect some rugged life when you get aboard your LST, and then you get meals like we had - steak and chicken and good corned beef hash - all in large quantities. You express surprise at this and you're told - but what the hell, it is D plus four - almost as if to say the war's been over for a year.

From then on in your geared to accept things on a large scale. The teeming beaches on which the convoys disgorge their freight, and then slide back to make room for the next one while the equipment scrambles up the slope to make room for the next arrivals.

And on the roads and near the battle zones ~~you keep meeting this proof fresh proof of~~ the mass of our ~~weight~~ force - lavishly BUT CAREFULLY thrown in. In England if you want something you apply for it in sextuplicate. In France, if you want something, you ask for it and you get it. whether its clothes, food, gasoline, equipment or anything.

There's one other ~~big~~ main impression I got of the Battle of France - and that was our air power. I never saw an enemy plane, and there were targets enough for them. Last night the

Germans sent some planes - just a few-to bomb the beaches. But they don't risk their planes out by daylight. And you can't imagine the feeling of being in a convoy on a road,moving up to battle, ~~to know~~ KNOWING that if you look up and see a plane it's one of ours. It gives you the feeling that nothing can stop you for long. Because on your way up you've seen some points that our bombers have worked on before - and there's nothing left alive there. --- It's not that the ground troops would be lost without their air support. The infantry did well enough during the past week of rotten flying weather. It's the team ~~quality~~ WORK of the whole business. Last night, when the weather cleared,and we saw the old Marauders come roaring overhead we all felt pretty good. --

And our air power doesn't consist in having - by some good fortune - more planes than the other fellow. WE'VE OUTSMARTED AND OUTWORKED THE ENEMY HERE TOO. // There's one bunch in France now who ~~[illegible] fighting for air power on the ground.~~ TYPIFY THIS. They're the Aviation Engineers of the Ninth Air Force. These men went in on D Day, helped capture ground and then moved in their heavy equipment to grade and build air strips and airfields. They've kept the rifle alongside the bulldozer on the lookout for snipers and they have artillery shells whining overhead as often as not. But they've built their strips. And by tomorrow we will have airfields in France capable of rearming and refueling fighters, and of handling ~~heavy~~ medium bombers. Which means that a field commander can lift a telephone and in five minutes get a force of bombers to help him out. You don't need a military expert to tell you ~~what that means~~ how important that is.

Like everything else it's the fruit of long and

careful planning. Before these engineers ever saw France they knew which fields and which ridges drained well enough and were hard enough to take the weight. And they knew that convoys would keep pouring in the stuff they needed.

What's happened to the German air force? Nobody knows - and not very many people care very much. And as far as the possibility of the Luftwaffe mounting one great attack - well, let 'em come.

One part of the picture on the far shore that can't be ignored is the dust. ~~The boys who drive along the road -- and they~~ It swirls up everywhere and gets into everything. To keep it out of their eyes THE ~~They~~ boys all wear the plastic eyeshields that were issued to them as part of their anti-gas equipment. But they like it better than they did the English mud - at least so far.

The Americans are pleased also that all traffic in France is on the right again.

I went around with an eye open for the work of our civil affairs authorities, wondering how they would solve the ticklish political problems they would face. Sofar they haven't ventured into politics as far as I could find out. Instead of putting out proclamations the way they did in Italy, telling the people what to do and how, civil affairs in France has put up only one prclamation- which warns against looting.

One interesting straw in the wind is the case of one small town in the American sector. The people of the town themselves fired a couple of officials who had collaborated with the Germans. And, as far as politics were concerned, there was no particular heat; but a determination to settle the whole thing when France is ~~was~~ freed.

This evening I hitched a ride in General Lee's transport and drove through London to write this broadcast. The town seemed much emptier, and I turned to the Colonel beside me in the car and said I guessed the British would have to get used to a new environment; just about as much as the American troops would. The Colonel allowed as how I was right, but said the Americans would probably get along as always. He told how one of the negro soldiers who are doing such magnificent work in France now almost fell over when a little french boy came up to him and asked the same old question "Anee shewing gom, meestair." The only difference was the accent.

this is Richard C. Hottelet returning you now to the United States.

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To: SHAEF Public Relations
Ministry of Information, Malet Street, London
For: Columbia Broadcasting SystemS
From: Richard C. Hottelet
Dateline: With Ninth Air Force in France, 10:15 PM 12 June 1944

The Allied Tactical Air Force has moved to France. From now on fighters will not have to fly back to England from the battle zone to refuel and rearm; very shortly now medium and fighter bombers will be able to load their bombs in France and take off from airfields in France to bomb the enemy.

From now on, given decent weather, the air support of our ground forces will be even more efficient than it has been. And the action radius of our medium bombers will be extended farther behind the enemy lines.

All this has been made possible by the construction of landing strips and airfields in Normandie during the first week of invasion. And the people who've done that construction are the Ninth Engineer Command of the Ninth Air Force.

Right now the engineer battalions of this command are working from first light to darkness/ with their bulldozers, graders, carry-alls and heavy rollers. They've already covered acres of ground to complete three landing strips and almost finish a fourth one. And these aren't just paths traced in a field. They're carefully located and planned. I saw a Flying Fortress take off from one this afternoon - which means it's solidly built.

The motto of the Aviation Engineers is "Build - maintain - defend"; but in this first week they've earned the right to say that they've captured the ground they've been called upon to

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The communique tonight gives the main news of the fighting today when it says that American troops have cut the railroad between Carentan and Cherbourg and have also crossed the Carentan - Volognes road at several places. We don't know exactly where the fighting is going on, but it's confirmed that Ste. Mere Eglise is a focal point.

Cutting the Cherbourg road and railroad means that the American forces have penetrated one third of the way across the Cherbourg peninsula from the east. There is no word yet to confirm or deny the German claim that we have paratroop formations also fighting on the western side of the peninsula neck. But Vichy radio tonight says that the Germans are sealing off the peninsula to contain the invasion forces.

Vichy radio also says that we have launched a third great invasion wave,/ ~~with new largescale~~ with shipborne reinforcements and NEW airborne landings in the Caen, Bayeux and Carentan. This part about the airborne landings seems improbable because the weather today has been rotten. Air activity has been cut to a minimum. There is a hope that conditions are improving, ~~and this seems to be borne out by word here tonight that the RAF is out again in strength.~~

Up in the Caen Bayeux area fighting is fierce and fluctuating. We often don't know in London exactly where our tropps are. Towns and heights may have patrols in them, the tide of battle flows back and forth across roads and open country. It's still impossible to draw a line on the map to mark the main [illegible] peninsula neck. But

are sealing off the

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airborne landings in the

battle front.

We have gained ground west and southwest of Bayeux - and one of the concrete proofs of our success there and elsewhere has been the number of prisoners brought in. So far 1900 prisoners have been checked through prisoner of war cages, and the number captured but not checked in is greater.

They're a queer lot, these prisoners. CBS War Correspondent Bill Downs cables from the Bayeux area that they're an international hash. He says apart from Germans there are Russians, some Poles, Czechs, Belgians and even one Japanese in German uniform. They all say they were pressed into service.

There was action on the sea not far from ~~off~~ the invasion area last night. Allied destroyers caught four German destroyers trying to sneak into our landing area like wolves into a sheep-fold. One was sunk, one chased aground and the others turned back.

General Eisenhower's confidence in the progress of operations was revealed in a CIVIL AFFAIRS proclamation issued to the French people tonight. ~~It was a civil affairs proclamation which~~ IT said that it would be up to the French to provide their own civil administration. It promised that officials who had made common cause with the enemy and betrayed their country would be removed.

CBS. JUNE 9, 1944. 19.30. Hottelet interviewing Major ~~Mark~~ Hartwell.

HOTTELET: When our troops went ashore for the invasion of Europe they went in shooting - everything that could drop explosives on the enemy was in action.

But there was one bunch in this invasion that went in on the stroke of H Hour and has been in there every minute of daylight since - without guns.

That was the photo reconnaissance outfit. And the job it's been doing is a vital one. The pictures they bring back are often the first reliable word our command has of the situation in a particular sector. Radio messages may be garbled and couriers may be late, but pictures don't lie.

Here is Major Norris E. Hartwell, of Cheyenne, Wyoming. ~~who~~ HE FLIES WITH THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE AND was the first reconnaissance pilot over the beaches on Tuesday morning. ~~and has~~ HE'S been over since. How has your job gone since H-Hour, Norris?

HARTWELL: We've been as busy as the proverbial one-armed paper hanger. In the first two days our group flew about 80 missions and took more than 5,000 photographs - which is quite a lot for a small outfit. You see, we don't go out in bunches - we go out one or two at a time to different places on different jobs.

HOTTELET: I'm told that they didn't put machine guns in your planes because they were afraid that if they did the boys would stooge around looking for a fight and wouldn't come back with the pictures.

HARTWELL: ~~I think we'd probably come back anyway, but~~ we don't really need the machine guns. The P-38's we fly are plenty fast.

HOTTELET: You've been over the whole invasion beach from one end to the other a couple of times since the invasion started. How does it look?

HARTWELL: The last time I was out from Le Havre to Cherbourg there were still a lot of ships out in the bay unloading men and equipment. They've got a terrific balloon barrage at various places. I was flying low [redacted], and I had to watch out pretty closely so as not to run into it

Down below I could see troops moving inland. There was quite a little activity, and I saw concentrations of tanks and vehicles in assembly areas. With our terrific fighter cover it didn't look as if our boys were afraid of enemy aircraft. But, even with all the activity, ~~and I saw concentrations of tanks~~ on it the beach wasn't very crowded.

HOTTELET: How did it look farther inland?

HARTWELL: It looked as if there was quite a lot of movement behind our lines, but I didn't notice much activity behind the German positions. The only thing I saw back there were fires and ruins. I saw one railroad train on fire from caboose to engine. And several towns inland were burning too.

I flew over the enemy air field at Caen on my last trip. It was pretty well ruined. but they had their guns up and let me have it. I GAVE HIM A COUPLE OF BURSTS WITH MY CAMERA AND WAS ON MY WAY. ~~I had to shoot back with my trusty camera.~~

At several points along the way I saw lots of red, green and orange parachutes. I saw more gliders, too, than on the first day; but -(I am very glad to say)- less artillery fire.

HOTTELET: How was it on D Day?

HARTWELL: YOU KNOW, D Day was a relief. We'd been working pretty hard, and I guess it was a nervous strain for us like it was for everyone else. I flew along the coast shortly after seven in the morning. We had expected to have the daylights shot out of us by anti-aircraft fire, and to have German fighters on our tail all the way. We didn't see any enemy fighters, and the anti-aircraft fire was enthusiastic but wild.

We had a grandstand seat for that show. Looking down we saw the men come ashore with the landing boats dragging out their white wakes behind them. There wasn't as much

HARTWELL: shore fire in some places as there was in others. We got caught in between the fire from the ships and from the shore, and we got out of that one in a hurry.

HOTTELET: When Major Hartwell says that the boys had been working pretty hard before D Day he's putting it mildly - and he's not giving you any idea of the importance of the job he and his buddies did.

In all the weeks before the invasion the photo-reconnaissance boys were General Eisenhower's eyes. Through them Ike was able to see the German defences - to find out how they were standing up to our bombing offensive and to see where the enemy was making particular preparations.

Before our men ever scrambled up the beach they knew exactly how it looked, where every obstacle was - and they were even able to stage some dress rehearsals of the big event.

Thank you, Major Norris E. Hartwell - and thanks to the Photo Recon boys. We wish you good shooting.

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Hottelet: The first step in the invasion of Europe was the naval assault. ~~The ships brought the men to the beach.~~ And the~~se~~ ships are getying the glory they deserve. The battlewagons and the cruisers that hit the coastal batteries - the destroyers and the LCI's, LST's, LCV's and so on -- they're in the limelight.

But about the only thing the minesweepers have gotten out of this operation is a wet skin and a hungry gut,-- ~~if they were lucky enough to come out at all.~~

It's about time somebody gave them their rights. Here's Commander Roland Price of the United States Navy, who's operations officer on the staff of Admiral Stark in London , who helped plan their job.

Pryce: I'll tell you one thing right at the start. If credit is given to anyone for going in first on this invasion it belongs to the minesweepers. They were in under the nose of the enemy batteries hours before H- Hour -- hours before our first paratroop formations dropped on enemy territory. And from the first they've done a dangerous and important job. Don't forget, it was up to them to crack the first German line of defense - the mine fields.

Hottelet: Were those minefields pretty thick?

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Pryce: They were plenty bad - and they were sown with different kinds of mines. There are acoustic mines that go off at the sound of the propellers; and magnetic mines, and moored and floated mines.

These fields had to be cleared and channels marked to let our landing parties get ashore. And 300 British and American mine craft with 10,000 men did that job - like traffic policemen clearing the way for the big parade.

Hottelet: Were their casualties high?

Pryce: No, they weren't. Skill -- and luck -- kept them down. But~~k~~ they had an awful lot to contend with. The English Channel is a bad ~~px~~ place to sweep. It's fairly shallow, and it's got fast tides. And the original job had to be done in a hurry. You see, they couldn't start very far in advance because that would have tipped the Germans off that invasion was coming and where. ---- Well, before H Hour, when they were halfway through their job, the minesweepers noticed that the three knot cross tide they'd been wrestling with had completely reversed itself.

Hottelet: That must have been pleasant.

Pryce: About as pleasant as a case of smallpox. But they came out all right. They had to. A slip might have endangered a whole landing party.

And anotherthing you've got to~~x~~ remember about

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the minesweepers is that they can't zigzag or take avoiding action. They've got to plow their furrows slowly and steadily - come hell or high water, bombing planes or the fire of shore batteries.

Hottelet: Well, I guess the men must be pretty glad now to be able to sit back, look at a job well done, and get a little rest.

Pryce: Not at all. ~~Xhatxzworkxawwmxxxxnpxx~~ The Germans keep sowing new mines in areas we've cleared. They drop them by plane and sneak them in with E boats. The minesweepers work is never done.

Hottelet: ½ Thank you, Commander Roland Pryce.

We return you now to Chicago

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Hottelet 0200 9 June 1944

The news ~~[illegible]~~ from the battle area in France as well as that made available to us by headquarters in England is becoming more specific. We know now that the American forces are out on the right side of the the front that stretches in a hundred ~~[illegible]~~ mile arc from the Cherbourg peninsula to LeHavre. And tonight it was confirmed that American forces are fighting on the peninsula along a lateral road from the little town Ste. Mere Eglise. This is probably the Carentan area that the Germans have been talking about, and in which they said that American forces coming in from the sea had fought their way through to join the airborhe troops.

Running east along that curving front it now appears that some beachheads had linked up. We don,t know exactly where Canadian and British troops are situated except that the British 6th airborne division holds the left flank of the front.

We and the enemy are getting to know each others names. We,ve identified some of his divisions and he claims to have spotted some of ours. We,ve admitted that the First American ~~[illegible]~~ and the 50th British divisions are in Normandie. The Germans claim that they,ve identified £ - in addition - the 3rd British, 3rd Canadian and the American 4th and 29th divisions together with our 506th Parachute Regiment.

And we, ve had a chance now to look up the Germans sleeve and spot some of their tricks. Their highly touted secret weapon didn,t come off- but they are using one tactic they learned in Russia -- ~~[illegible]~~ snipers. Most correspondents stories ~~back from the front~~ tell of suicide snipers left behind to harass

our advancing soldiers. The enemy also intended to use his midget beetle tanks against our landing forces, but somehow he didn,t get around to it and the stunt never came off. We captured a number of them intact. The Germans have, however, ~~[illegible]~~ put their newx ~~[illegible]~~ selfpropelled gun - calledthe Hornet - into action against us. It,s an 88 mm gun ~~x~~ on a Mark four chassis.

Two more tricks the Germans tried thatdidn,t work were ~~xxx~~ painting our identification markings on some of their planes, which ~~they~~ were shot down nevertheless; and in laying new minefields but forgetting to remove the boundary markings, so that we found them neatly labelled for us when we came ashore.

CBS 0045 9 June 1944

The communique tonight gives us good news in sober and restrained language. It says that the American bridgeheads -- of which we've been hearing comparatively little -- are being gradually enlarged. And it says that the British and Canadian forces are making progress.

Very fortunately the weather improved today, and convoys were able to come in and unload reinforcements. It looks as if our troops will not be hampered by a shortage of supply.

And it looks as if we're not reinforcing only by sea. Allied freight planes continued to supply our airborne troops.

All along the front now the enemy has his reserves in action. He is fighting fiercely on land and is making more determined attempts to fight us on the water. Last night four groups of enemy E boats tried to penetrate the assault area but were driven off with loss.

Our own air activity has continued on a large scale. The communique announces thatwe have flown about 27,000 missions since H hour on D day½

As you see, our official announcement remains general and cautious. But German sources are beginning to fall over themselves in giving details of how well things are going FOR US.

A Berlin report says that our beachhead in the Caen - Bayeux area is now 36 miles wide and 11 miles deep. It says that British forces are now fighting in the streets of Caen, and that General Montgomery has ten divisions in that area including

three armored divisions. The Germans say that heavy equipment continues to pour ashore, and that the British are bringing up very heavy tanks. All in all, says Berlin, the allies already have 20 divisions in France. It says more are coming in all the time - ~~[illegible] Berlin also [illegible]~~ and reports for the first time the landing of a large body of ~~glider troops~~ reinforcements by glider in broad daylight today behind our lines north of Bayeux.

~~The Germans also report that~~

The German-controlled French radio tonight reports that we have made new airborne landings behind the German lines way to the south of Caen -- about 40 miles in from the coast.

And ~~the~~ Berlin says that the American forces on the Cherbourg peninsula are doing very well, too. It speaks of our "overwhelming superiority", ~~says~~ saying that the Germans have "withdrawn their spearheads" and are on the defensive in the Carentan sector.

If you could believe these enemy reports tonight there would be ~~[illegible]~~ grounds for great optimism -- which may be the reason the Germans are putting them out.

Hottelet CBS 8 June 1944 21:30

The only definite official word we've had of the progress of the fighting in France this afternoon is of large scale air attacks against enemy targets. -- Here again the pattern emerges of systematic bombing of railroad lines, roads, bridges, junctions and troop movements all designed to keep the Germans from bringing up reinforcements against our beachheads.

The names of the places bombed - Rennes, Dinard, Laval, LeMans, Lessay, Valognes, Tours, Angers, Nantes and more - give an idea of the scope. The objectives sweep around behind the German lines in a broad arc and reflect various focal points of battle in Normandie.

The Tactical air force went in again with medium and fighter bombers practically crawling along the ground to pimpoint targets including some of the big Tiger tanks moving up to the Front. The 21st Pz Div has been positively identified.

Supreme Headquarters in England revealed tonight that it expects German air opposition to increase. It's pointed out that the Germans still have 1500 fighter planes in Western Europe - of which only a fraction have been committed.

On the ground the Germans report heavy fighting at both sides of the neck of the Cherbourg peninsula - mainly around Ste. Mere Eglise. No additional place names are given in London, and the situation is summed up in this way: The first phase of securing a foothold and defeating local German reserves, is successfully concluded. The second phase of consolidating the foothold and engaging German tactical reserves is now in progress. The

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third phase, the engagement of German strategic reserves, is still to come. The enemy's strategic reserves must be defeated before we can hope for substantial advances.

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I turn you over now to Bill Shadel, War Correspondent who's just come back from the Bay of the Seine.

CBS. JUNE 8. 04.30: HOTTELET

C.B.S. JUNE 8TH. 04.30. HOTTELET: REPORT TO THE NATION

HOTTELET: Right now, there are men over Europe, carrying bombs, towing gliders, dropping paratroops. There are tired men bringing their planes back to the fields from a mission. There are men who will not come back - who have flown their last attack against the enemy.

These are the men of the air forces - the men of the RAF and the men in the olive drab of the American Air Force. For them this is just another phase of an invasion they started many weeks ago.

The men who have died in Fortresses over Berlin, the men who didn't come back from the first European Marauder mission more than a year ago - the men who for months have plastered airfields and factories, railroads and bridges, guns and beaches with bombs and more bombs --- these were the advance guard of the invasion.

I went out yesterday with Colonel Joe Kelly's Crusader Group. One of the hottest groups in the Ninth Air Force. We were picked to bomb a stretch of beach - Utah Beach, it was called - seven minutes before the troops came ashore. We did it and we did it well. Since then the boys have flown three more missions - against different targets, but with the same purpose - to pave the way for our ground forces.

HOTTELET: I got three of the boys of the group to come to London tonight to tell about their part in the invasion. There's Captain Cal LeMaster of Portland Oregon, who flew as an observer; and Lieutenant Harry Michael from Wichita Falls, Texas, who pilots a B-26; and Lieutenant Arvil Mullins (they call him Moon) from Magnolia, Arkansas, who helped with the staff work on the ground.

Harry Michael, you were over France this morning on your 49th mission, how did it look?

MICHAEL: We were having trouble with the weather this morning. We began to ice up in the overcast over France. One of the boys got his controls frozen and dived about ten thousand feet before he could pull out. But the group went in and bombed; and went out again this afternoon. We'd be out flying a lot more if the weather'd give us a break. As it is, we're going down to four thousand and three thousand feet to get under the clouds to drop our bombs. That's low for a Marauder. But we've got to lay the bombs right on the line. We'd fly at one thousand if we had to.

HOTTELET: I'll bet you would. What's given you the biggest kick on your invasion missions?

MICHAEL: I think it's just knowing the direct tie-up between the bombs we drop and the men going ashore. Up till now, when we've dropped our bombs we've known they were doing

MICHAEL: a job. But now we can see with our own eyes we're helping the men on the ground. That means more to us than anything.

But apart from that, I'll tell you, I get the biggest kick out of not seeing any German fighters and not meeting up with any heavy flak. I can't understand what's happened to them.

HOTTELET: What do you think it is, Cal?

LEMASTER: I don't know what it is, Dick, but I think that they've been knocked off balance by the tremendous weight of bombing from the air and bombardment from the sea. Last night I flew over one of the focal points of the invasion on the coast of Normandy - and we didn't see a burst of Flak or a single German fighter.

And that was the spot they should have been, because the Bay of the Seine was full of our ships. It looked like a box of matches spilled on a plate of soup.

The Germans say they've been holding their main defences in reserve for the counter-attack - but I'm sure that the reason they haven't bothered us more is either that we've destroyed them or destroyed the means of moving them to the proper place in time.

That doesn't mean they're all gone, or all immobilized. The Germans are going to make an attempt to concentrate all their strength to knock us into the sea. This afternoon we saw some truck convoys on the roads moving towards the

CBS JUNE 8 04:30 HOTTELET REPORT TO THE NATION

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MICHAEL: The boys were certainly keen today. Those railroad targets are pretty small and it was important to get direct hits on them. That and the weather meant we had to go in low. We expected heavy flak.

We got over the target at about three thousand feet and went in to bomb. One of the boys didn't get his bombs off straight away and he went after it again. That fellow did three runs over the target before he dropped his bombs.

// There's a spirit in the group now that wasn't there before. One of the colonels put it well when he said - "We're proud to be alongside those guys on the ground, and there's nothing we won't do to help them."

As soon as the weather gives us a break we'll put on heat that'll drive Jerry silly.

Hottelet: Moon, what do you say? You help send the boys out.

LEMASTER: beaches.

The Germans'll try to move all right, and it's up to the bombers to nail 'em down. And I'll tell you there are a lot of our planes over there all day swinging the hammer. Wherever you fly you see our fighters and bombers criss-crossing down below.

HOTTELET: What did it look like on the ground today?

LEMASTER: Well, we attacked down to the south of the town of Bayeux, which we've just captured. We were after a couple of railroad lines along which a panzer division was reported moving up toward the beaches. We got a good strike. The town of Vire, which is an important railroad point was completely destroyed.

We flew over the main combat area, but didn't see any signs of battle. The only really intense activity we saw on the ground was our reinforcements pouring on to the beach.

Up in the coastal area we hadn't seen any civilian life, but down south we saw some peasants ploughing their fields, and some people waved at us.

HOTTELET: Moon, what do you say? You help send the boys out.

MULLINS: ~~As I see it the important~~ thing is that we've got the strength and we know how to use it. Right now, like Harry said, the weather's been keeping us down low - so low that the Colonel's even given the order to use our machine guns on any ground target that looks promising. The boys did it this afternoon on that truck convoy they saw. If low level stuff does the job, we'll do it low.

Ttelet → So just keep on the way you're going

You watch our tactics during this next phase of the invasion. ~~Itxxxgoingx~~ It's up to us to keep the Germans from concentrating for a counter-attack. And we're going to try to do the same job on the German communications in the rear that we did on the coastal defences. We want to pulverize them. If we can keep a wall of bombs between our troops and the enemy we'll be all right. ~~I haven't - got a crystal ball, so~~ I can't foretell the future. But no matter what, we'll be in there pitching.

HOTTELET: I was talking to a friend of mine yesterday, a hard-bitten infantry officer who's sometimes been annoyed by the stories of the air force doing all the work. Well, I had hardly said hello before he began to tell me about what a swell job our fliers had done - and how the smoothness of the whole operation was the result of their work.

Take your bows, boys.

MULLINS: That was mighty nice of your friend; but I'll tell you one thing. We don't deserve any more credit than anybody else who does his job. What's making this invasion click right now is teamwork - and as far as we're concerned we're the infantry with wings, just one part of the big team of all arms.

HOTTELET: Thank you, gentlemen - and now back to Report to the Nation in New York.

Hottelet (murrow's copy)

Murrow to CBS...... June 7. 19.30

This is London...Here is a summary of the days information learned at SHAEF..Early this morning it became clear ~~the~~ that resistance was stiffening, and it seemed that our progress was not all we had hoped for. But by noon the situation improved. This is a time when fatigue begins to tell ...that happens in every operation after about 48 hours... many of the men were seasick going over.....they have been wet and without slepp, and it takes a little while for them to get their second wind. There is nothing critical about the present situation, but it is clear that the army is up against some very stiff fighting.

The weather ~~has continued to be~~ IS NOW DESCRIBED AS disappointing - not as good as we had hoped for.

In the Caen area yesterday evening the enemy launched an armoured counter-attack, but it was repelled. It is further stated that all of the beaches are now clear, and some have linked up. The naval guns are continuing to assist the ground forces, and there has been some trouble~~xxxxThe~~ with a few coastal batteries; they have been very obstinate indeed - bombing and shellfire have failed to silence them. The phrase "the beaches are clear" - does not of course mean that they are no longer subject to enemy artillery fire.

Headquarters continue to refuse to divulge specific areas or place names, but we do know that troops and supplies continued to ~~px~~ be put ashore on all the beaches.

Today Allied medium bombers have been hitting road and rail communications south of the assault area. ~~Aixx~~ No railway line between Rouen and Paris is operating. The bridges have been

destroyed by Allied bombing. Only one highway bridge continues to carry traffic between those two points.

The Germans were slow in destroying vital bridges in the assault area, and Allied airborne troops took several of them intact.

The enemy air reaction is becoming a little more spirited, but the Germans have yet to employ any considerable portion of their total strength.

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And the latest report, again from a German source, this evening is that our airborne troops there have fought their way back to establish contact with our troops landing from the sea.

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Hottelet

CBS 1800 7 June 1944 175

The Germans are now saying that the Allied bridgehead at the mouth of the Orne River extends on both sides of it for a distance of 20 miles along the coast. Berlin also says that it is 6 miles deep in parts. Which means that the Germans concede we have already occupied an area of about a hundred square miles.

The Germans are adopting a more cautious tone in the news they're putting out. This morning they claimed that all bridgeheads had been wiped out except one. Now they casually mention another bridgehead northwest of Bayeux, which they call a British lodgement.

We know that bitter fighting is still going on at all landing points, but there is no official word available in London yet as to precisely how IT'S PROGRESSING and where. ~~it's going on.~~

The latest report from the Cherbourg peninsula, about which there hasn't been much news since early yesterday, is of airborne operations. Our own Allied Air Force says that late last night and early this morning waves of paratroops and glider troops reinforced the units in that area. New equipment and special detachments of combat engineers were dropped. The Germans are more specific and say that operations against these forces are in full swing at a little town called St. Mere Eglise. This is about 5miles inland from the eastern beach and about ten miles up from the neck of the peninsula.

Some of the transport pilots who've been flying

Hottelet   1145

reinforcements in to that sector tell of how our troops on the ground waved up at them. They report that just after the landing the whole Cherbourg peninsula seemed covered with parachutes.

Some German prisoners have arrived back in England from the invasion beaches. We're not allowed to see 'em. And our wounded have begun to trickle in. They were first day casualties - and they reported the now familiar story of weak and disorganized opposition at the landing points. But one of the boys, Private Johnny LaCognata of Brooklyn, told a story that reveals one tiny detail of the enormous care and skill that went into our landing. He was in an assault party that had to land first and clear the beaches for the main landing forces. He said that when he hit the beach it seemed as if he had been trained on it. Nothing was unfamiliar. He knew exactly what it would look like, what he would find on it in the way of mines and obstacles; and how to deal with them. It ran like clockwork.

When the heat is off a bit we may be able to release more details of the careful preparation - why we attacked at low tide, why we invaded on the day we did - and how we knew what and where to strike.

There's an almost human touch about the American battleships which played a part in the pre-invasion bombardment. The old Texas had bombarded Casablanca in the North African landing. in that invasion. The Arkansas is another old one that had been retired ~~was used~~ as a school ship. And one got up out of her grave to get a crack back at the Axis. It was the Nevada that was salvaged from Pearl Harbor.

This is Richard C. Hottelet returning you to Ted Collins in N.Y.

Hottelet 7 June 1944 14:01:30

The Germans report that their tactical reserves have been thrown in against our invasion forces, ~~They report~~ and that bitter fighting begun last night is still going on. A report from Field Marshal von Rundstedt's headquarters says that German paratroopers, tanks and infantry have established contact with American, British and Canadian airborne and infantry units.

Another German report is that increasing numbers of tanks are being thrown into the battle by both sides.

There's no official word available in London on the progress of the battle, but headquarters expected that the Germans would take advantage of darkness to mobilize their reserves and launch a counterattack against what they think are major points. That is the classic formula for the defense of a beach.

It remains to be seen how much each side can get to the key points first. The picture is still confused - Supreme Headquarters/in England ~~here~~ has not yet given the names of landing points and battlefields. But a broad pattern ~~being~~ begins to emerge from our own reports as well as from the enemy's.

Our own communique says that we successfully landed some more airborne troops last night. A neutral correspondent in Berlin reports that the landings were mostly around Caen. And it does seem, from German reports, that the main fighting is in that area. The Germans report that we also ~~brought~~ landed more amphibious forces last night and that strong ground forces are continuing to land this morning, mainly in that area between the Vire and Orne Rivers on the Bay of the Seine.

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The Germans have admitted that our tactics have been

very aggressive. One German war reporter told a vivid story of our infantry riding up off the beach on tanks and trying to drive straight inland. According to this source we are trying to attack the town of Caen from two sides. This means a penetration inland of at least twelve miles.

The German High Command is explaining things in its own way. It's saying that ~~they~~ it waited a day to see how the ~~[illegible]~~ invasion would develop before throwing in its reserves against the focal point; and that it's now decided that the focal point is in the Caen-Bayeux area.

This might be very plausible if it were not for our complete air superiority and for the fact that it ruined the first German defenses. The Germans built their great west wall to hold us off the beach long enough for reserves to be at the point when our main bodies landed. They failed to do this.

And it's not too much to assume that our air power will strike tremendous blows to weaken the force of the counterattacks the Germans launch now. All day yesterday the Germans had to keep their reinforcement columns off the roads, and when they did move during the night they had to go over roads that had been heavily bombed. And even darkness did not provide complete cover. RAF mosquitoes bombed and strafed convoys at several points last night. And during these first days, combat sorties flown will be counted in the tens of tjousands.

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Hottelet 1500 7 June

The Allied Expeditionary Air Force has just announced that the airborne forces we dropped in France last night have seized positions on the Cherbourg peninsula.

There is no more word on the German reports that we are continuing to land strong amphibious forces.

Just before noon this morning German longrange artillery went into action against the Dover area for two hours. It was one of the heaviest - if not the heaviest - fire ~~barrage~~ these guns have yet laid down. One German radio report is that we are now carrying out an amphibious operation across the straits of Dover against the Calais area.

There is another German report just out, too, that an enormous fleet is standing off the Cherbourg peninsula. - A fleet of more than 6,000 vessels.

It can't be repeated too often that these German reports can't be relied upon. In many cases they're based on a certain amount of truth - but in others their purpose is to provoke confirmation or denial. These particular reports are designed to find out whether we are actually landing from the sea at new points.

At this stage of the operations our Supreme Headquarters doesn't want to take the risk of giving the enemy any information by commenting on these reports.,

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hottelet page ~~three~~ TWO 1500 7 June

The enemy is still strong, and he's going to make every effort to keep us from getting a firm foothold with a harbor. And we need a harbor to land the enormous quantities of amm'n & supplies our forces need. ~~a harbor.~~ The stories of bitter fighting coming back to us already prove the enemy's determination. ~~xrxxproofxofxthatx~~ The Germans are apologizing away the absence of any secret weapon but do claim to have a new tank. But Whether they have or not, ~~the~~ the real German secret weapon is the same one they've always had - namely the ability to keep discipline and fight hard under terrific pressure. ~~Itxisxthexproblem~~

The fact that we broke the coastal defenses does not mean that we've hit the main German force. It's still strong - estimated at over fifty divisions. The job of our forces is to increase the pressure until the enemy cracks. This will not happen overnight.

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③ 1500 7 June 140

Our air forces are doing magnificent work. And now we can see how well our pre-invasion bombing has paid off. the Germna lateral communications that we destroyed during the past few weeks are the ones the Germans are badly in need of now. I think we can expect, without being too optimistic, that our bombers can now do much the same job against German roads and troop concentrations ~~now~~ that they did against the strongly fortified and well camouflaged coastal defenses.

~~We're [illegible] optimistic. And we're justified in being~~ so on the basis of our success yesterday. But there are still dangerous days ahead. ~~[illegible]~~ A harbor is needed to nourish an invasion army of the size we put ashore with ammunition and other necessities. As far as we know we still don't have a harbor.

But the battle goes on - and despite crises and dangers we've got the strength ~~to win it.~~

The success of the whole operation may depend on how well the can do it.

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Hottelet 11:45 7 June

It looks as if the first critical night has passed for our forces in France without bringing them serious trouble. And It was a critical night. ~~because it xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx by nightfall the Germans had an idea of what was going on and where, and~~ ~~THE COVER OF~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~night gave them everywhere the chance to move reinforcements and equipment up to key points.~~ ~~AGAINST US.~~

Our air supremacy over the battlefield had prevented the Germans from bringing up tanks and heavy guns against focal points during daylight (yesterday). It was expected they'd do so ~~during the night.~~ AFTER DARK.

It ~~looks~~ SEEMS as if they'd done ~~that~~ IT to a certain extent, but reports available here this morning indicate that our landed forces are holding ~~there~~ their own. AND THE COMMUNIQUE THIS MORNING SAYS THAT WE SUCCESSFULLY RESUMED AIRBORNE OPERATIONS LAST NIGHT.

German air, ~~[illegible]~~ interferance picked up during yesterday, but not on any scale that would indicate the Luftwaffe had climbed into the ring for a knockdown drag out fight.

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Hottelet   page ~~three~~ TWO

Allied air forces were out again last night. The RAF sent out more than a thousand bombers to bomb RR bridges, roadx junctions and military communications. Our planes are out again this morning. They are doing their best to see that the Germans can't move in strength at all during daylight - and that the facilities which they would use to move at night are destroyed. It's up to the air forces to nip counterattacks in the bud --- and already hardbitten ground officers are taking off their hats to the job they've done.

We're not out of the woods yet - but there is no reson for pessimism at all about our chances of getting out.

Hottelet page three 11:45 7 June

Some German coastal batteries that may have been just stunned by the weight of our bombing and naval bombardment have also come back into action - but too late to have any decisive effect on ~~the~~ this phase of the invasion.

The Germans, of course, report that they launched terrific counterattacks during the night, wiping out British and American paratroops formations. Berlin went so far as to claim that they had wiped out all except one of our beachheads. It looks as if Goebbels is fishing for news again. There is no information at all that would even partially confirm this claim.

Another element in the invasion that had been looked forward to with some apprehension was the weather over the Straits. Well, this morning the weather appears to be better than yesterday. Clouds are rising and there is a northwesterly breeze. This is better than the southwest wind that prevailed yesterday, because the British islands provide some shelter.

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Hottelet - invasion filler

If all goes well on this invasion, a lot of the success will be due to the way the secret was kept. And getting the correspondents together to send out to their units was a pretty ticklish security problem. The Army decided to take the curse off the sudden disappearance of big newspaper and radio names by alerting them several times before the real thing.

Some weeks ago accredited correspondents were reaccredited to Supreme Headquarters, after an additional security check, in preparation for their assignment to combat units. From then until D-day there were a series of training programs and alerts for the ground correspondents to get them used to field conditions. And probably just as much to get hotel porters and landladies used to seeing their tenants rush out of the place in steel helmets and canteens and field uniform.

The correspondents with the ground forces and navy got their final alert early last week. Those of us flying with the Ninth Air Force were not alerted until Saturday, and then it came with a rush. I was sitting at home in my underwear writing a broadcast when I got a casual telephone call to report to the PRO. I got dressed in civilian clothes and went out there. I thought that we'd get a chance to go back and pick up our uniforms and typewriters and things before we went off. But it turned out there was no chance at all. Once we got into that headquarters building we were in the Army. From then on we went where we were told to go. We were forbidden to make any telephone calls, to break dates or get in direct touch with anyone for any reason.

After a short talk telling us that we were under military law we were bundled out to an airfield and flown to our bomber groups. There was nothing to indicate that this was the real thing. For all we knew it might have been a practice alert. The group I went to - Col. Joe Kelly's Crusader group - was following its normal routine. Briefings, missions, leave passes, a saturday night party - everything was business as usual. It wasn't until Monday that we knew what D- day was. Just after noon yesterday, when the men

returned from their routine morning mission we were called in to the Colonel's office to meet the pilots of our planes. ~~We went out to the planes with them and found that the wings and the fuselages were being painted with broad white and black stripes. It was clear immediately that these were for special identification - and that the Germans would not be allowed to see these special markings until it was too late for them to do anything about it. The idea of the stripes was to make our planes easily recognizable to our own people so that we wouldn't get peppered by our own hair-trigger antiaircraft.~~

~~And the ground crews and pilots got the idea right away. But there was no danger of a security leak. By the time we saw what we had seen Colonel Joe Kelly issued an order cutting the base off completely from the outside world.~~

The rest of that afternoon there was a different atmosphere around that base. It wasn't that there was any tenseness or grimness. When the Red Cross Clubmobile passed out coffee and doughnuts and its loudspeaker blared out a song called "This is worth fighting for" there were the usual guffaws from the men. But everyone knew something was ~~cooking. There~~ in the works. ~~If the stripes on the planes weren't enough,~~ there were armed guards at the ~~any times that afternoon I looked up at the sky and wondered how the weather would be~~ door of the briefing room, where they were hanging up the secret target material for D-Day; and the bar was closed; and everybody was told to get to sleep early. And by mid-afternoon the planes were bombed up and gassed up ready to go.

Several times that afternoon I found myself looking up at the sky wondering what the D day weather was going to be. We knew we'd be flying no matter what the weather - and if there were low clouds we'd get under them to drop our bombs. We were set for a precision job - and a precision job we did.

The job of keeping the real facts and real intentions secret from the enemy was the most difficult yet. There was no deceiving the enemy ROUGHLY where the invasion was going to take place. No number of ~~fake~~ landing barges and ~~fake~~ troop movements could conceal the fact that the overwhelming mass of our forces was concentrated against a certain portion of the European coast. The only things that could effectively be concealed were the when and the how and and the precise focal points of the invasion.

Even so, the enemy had a good idea of what was going on. On Sunday he began to move extra anti-aircraft into the part of ~~the coast we~~ OUR BOMB GROUP were going to attack. The chances are he moved extra forces into other threatened areas at the same time. And, AS MUCH AS two weeks before D-day, Goebbels had started a systematic campaign to make his soldiers and his people fighting mad. All the stories of our fliers machine-gunning civilians and kindergartens and dropping poison candy that have poured out of the Propaganda Ministry for the past fourteen days were put out for that reason. And so were the stories of of American fliers being lynched by righteously angry civilians - they were intended as ~~a precedent~~ examples to be followed.

~~But even so,~~ great precautions were taken on this side to keep the details secret. For weeks before D Day there were round-ups all over England ~~to pick up suspicious persons~~. And the ordinary leaks to the outside world had been plugged weeks before by the restrictions placed on travel to Ireland, and on travel out of England. Security is no respecter of persons and one major general was relieved of his post and confined to his quarters for saying the wrong things to the wrong people.

The Supreme Command didn't rely only on security. They also went to a great deal of trouble to deceive the enemy. A lot of things they did are still secret - but one trick is over now. That was the one of spreading rumors that the invasion had been postponed for some weeks. ~~This was~~ THEY WERE spread well,

because when we left London, some of the correspondents were seriously worried that we might have to stay out at the base for a couple of weeks.

USO Show

D Day eve ~~The evening~~ before a USO Camp show played the field. As far as the boys were concerned it might have been an ordinary evening. When the band played "Mary" and Down by the Old Mill Stream, the men all joined in the way they always do - with one half stumbling along behind the other half that knows the words. ~~And~~ When the first pretty girl dancer came on the stage there were the usual howls and whistles, and not even the factthat she couldn't dance prevented her from getting a big hand. And there was the usual Donal Duck in the audience who quacked and squawked and gurgled when the romantic musical couple went into a particularly corny tune.

The high point of the show was when a roller skate artist took a sergeant and then an officer and whirled them around to make them dizzy. The sight of these men staggering around on the stage brought down the house. It was an easy audience to please - an audience that wasn't much worried by the fact that within 12 hours they would be in the thick of invading Europe.

And the boys who were in the day room playing ping pong or shooting crap showed no signs of nerves either. For my part, I kept looking at the sky.

Hottelet CBS 6 June 1944 noon

Prime Minister Churchill has just gievn us the first [redacted] coherent overall picture of the progress IN [redacted] the invasion of Europe. Speaking in the House of Commons [redacted] Mr. Churchill said, [redacted] that THESE [redacted] landings are the real thing. He said this after German radio reports had tried to insinuate IT [redacted] might be a false alarm or a diversion which might be called off.

The Prime Minister also said ~~that the landings are now going on and~~ that the fire of the shore batteries has [redacted] BEEN largely quelled. [redacted] I can confirm that in part, because this morning precisely at H- Hour I flew over twenty miles of the invasion coast in a Marauder and did not see a German coastal battery fire a shot. Mr. Churchill [redacted] revealed that the invading forces had not found the German underwater obstacles as difficult as WE HAD [redacted] feared, and that the landings on the beaches are STILL [redacted] going on.

WHICH [redacted] means that - within six hours of the commencement of seaborne operations - the invasion of Europe has cleared the first hurdle. Not only that, but the progress has been so satisfactory in this initial phase that Mr. Churchill FELT [redacted] able to say [redacted] we may have had tactical surprise. This is excellent news - but it's [redacted] well to remember that the critical period of [redacted] an [redacted] operation on this scale is expected to last at least a week. The men are on the beach now - but until enough heavy equipment is ashore to deal with German counterattacks we [redacted] are not out of danger. We must expect those counterattacks momentarily.

//// We may be cautious here in London this morning - but don't get the impression we're gloomy. Far from it. The strength that [redacted] been thrown into this operation is staggering. Mr. Churchill said that more than 4,000 ships and several thousand smaller craft have already crossed the channel. He [redacted] told of the massed airborne landings behind the enemy lines. ~~(the Germans say we landed four divisions by~~

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four divisions by parachute and glider) which may be somewhat exaggerated. But there were at least 20,000. And the Prime Minister gave another example of how many chips we have in this game by announcing that the Allied Expeditionary Force is sustained by 11,000 first line aircraft which can be called upon as needed. -- This is another fact of considerable significance. IT'S ANOTHER WAY OF SAYING that the Royal Air Force is prepared to put its night bombers into the sky by daylight if the need should arise. With the RAF ready to bomb by day in AN EMERGENCY we could carry out, in any threatened area, a bombing offensive without equal or precedent.

The British Prime Minister wound up his short resume in the House of Commons by saying that --- as the battle grows in size and intensity for many weeks we will give the enemy many more surprises.

The remarkably swift development of this first day is pointed up by the fact that Mr. Churchill felt it possible to make the statement he did only two hours after the Supreme Command here issued a cautious and vague communique. This communique said only that landing operations in Europe had begun.

We're allowed now to release some more details on the action. In the first phase - before the landing the weather was unfavorable. There were rain squalls, and the channel was rough. But By H-Hour the weather had changed for the better. -- And we're able now to hand a bouquet to the men of the minesweepers who did a magnificent job in clearing the landing areas of thousands of mines under the noses of the German coastal batteries.

The news of the invasion was originally broken by the Germans at half past six this morning - half past midnight EWT. There was no official word from London until three hours later. When the news did get around here there was no dancing in the streets. Nobody blew his top - nor is anyone likely to until the outcome is finally assured. Today is almost the anniversary of Dunkirk. -- And this is the way Ed Murrow put it this morning, ~~seems possible to~~

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3 hottelet CBS noon

" This morning in this grey battered [redacted] old city beside the Thames, a sorely tried people is praying. ... It [redacted] almost seems possible to hear Drakes Drum and the Battle Hymn of the Republic."

~~I return you now to Allen Jackson in New York~~

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BUREAU

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Bottelet Invasion 6 June 1944

Allied Forces ~~The first United States Army~~ landed in France early ~~at 6:30~~ this morning ~~half past midnight EWT~~. I watched the ~~x~~first landing barges hit the beach exactly on the minute of H- Hour. I was in a Ninth Air Force Marauder flying at 1500 feet along twenty miles of the invasion coast.

From what I could see during those first few minutes there was nothing stopping the assault parties from getting ashore. We spent about ~~haxf~~ half an hour over enemy territory. We flew over and bombed some of thez coastal fortifications - but except ~~fxx~~ for some light flak from inland positions and from some tanks firing at us we saw no enemy gun fire. The only other sign of life in enemy territory were some white and yellow parachutes dotting the ground where our ~~pa~~ paratroopers had hit the ground. The Weather is favourable for the operation.

Offshore allied warships were bombarding the enemy coast and they seemed to be doing it without any opposition. As far as we were concerned there was no opposition from the air either. The Luftwaffe just didn't seem to be there.

What I saw was ~~x~~ literally the last minute of the invasion preparation and the first minute of the invasion. We were low, but we were travelling fast and we could not tell how the battle for the beaches would develop. But - if the ground action goes as smoothly as the air preparation we can hope for the best.

I went in with a bomber ~~Col. Joe Kelly's Marauder~~ group - probably the hottest group in the Ninth Air Force. Our mission was to

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plaster the invasion beach and some coastal fortifications with bombs seven minutes before our assault parties came ashore. ~~Joe Kelly's~~ Their group was chosen for this hairtrigger work because of its previous superb record. Well, we delivered and we delivered on time.

This is the way it worked. Last night we were told briefing would be at three o'clock. We got up at two - had griddle cakes and fried spam for breakfast and went into the long Nissen hut that serves as briefing room. The doors were closed and ~~Col. Kelly~~ the Commanding Officer announced that the invasion had begun. He said that since midnight, three hours before, our paratroopers - some twenty thousand of them - had been landing in France. The men cheered. The Colonel went on to say that the air forces were being called upon for their maximum contribution. There were going to be ~~1200~~ more than 1500 fortresses and Liberators flying ahead of us - hundreds of medium bombers were going to precede us - and our group was to wind up the pre-invasion bombing. When he said this the men really cheered. To top it off we were going to have cover from ~~[illegible]~~ more than 2500 allied fighters

The Colonel made it plain that nothing was to be left to chance. The weather in the target area had been unsettled and cloudy. If we were going to deliver precision bombing we would have to fly below the cloud - and that we would go down and bomb from a thousand feet. And when he saidthat, not a man blinked an eye, despite the fact that such low altitude counts as suicide with the marauders.

It was still dark when we took off - and raining. But one by one those marauders roared down the runway and took off. An hour and a half later we were out over the English channel. At first we

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couldn't see anything except a few stray vessels.

Great care had been taken to keep our ships from firing at their own planes. ~~xxxx~~ Every single bomber and fighter had been painted overnight with ~~broad~~ special markings ~~Blue/white and black striped~~ on wings and fuselage. And the direction we were to fly - the way we were to turn if we got into trouble, and the/recognition signals we were to give - had all been very carefully worked out.

Even so, when we passed over the first few barges we had the uncomfortable feeling that we were being shot at. It didn't last long. We were out and away in a matter of minutes.

By this time ~~it~~ dawn was getting on ~~[illegible]~~ and the sun was painting the sky a bright orange ochre on our left. Below us the English channel was a fine deep blue. There were a few whitecaps, but we got the impression that it wasn't very rough down below.

About five miles off the French coast we saw a plane in a steep dive laying a smoke screen. Just about the same minute the pilot said he saw fires on the shore. I looked as hard as I could and there down to the left were some naval vessels - the looked like cruisers - firing broadsides onto the shore. Their guns belched flame and smoke. Once I saw a fountain of water not far from one of them which may have been a shot from the shore x or a depth charge. NEAR THE STRAIGHT, WIDE BEACH [illegible] SMALL BOATS, BARELY VISIBLE IN THE EARLY MORNING LIGHT.

All this while we saw ~~hundreds of~~ our medium bombers and fighters crisscrossing on the way to the target without a sign of a German plane. Then, as we turned in over the coast about ten minutes before H-Hour we saw a fast assault boat race along parallel to the beach laying

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a smoke screen. From the way the screen lay - smooth and even - it looked as if there were no wind.

We opened our bomb bay doors. Light flak began to come up after us - little balls of fire off to our right and to our left. Some heavy flak off to our left, not near at all, firing only sporadically. The flights ahead of us dropped their bombs, the guns on the ships offshore resumed fire. The bombs and the shells burst together on the target. There were shoots of flame down below, then rolling balls of brown and black smoke. ~~by~~ Four and a half thousand feet up our plane was rocked by the concussion. We dropped our bombs as scheduled and we got [illegible] ~~a [illegible] minutes after six.~~ And just then we saw, down below on our left, dozens and scores of white streaks as the assault boats raced over the blue water to the beach leaving their white wakes stretched out behind them. As we turned away ~~ix~~ from the target we saw the boats hit the beach. Then we took evasive action and I couldn't see any more. Down below, except for some more sporadic flak, it was a dead country. No sign of life - no vehicles on roads, no troop movements. ~~Only in one area, where our para-troops had landed there were some discarded white and yellow parachutes.~~

And all the way in we saw our marauders weaving in and out in perfect formation above us, below us and around us on all sides, We didn't see a single one of our planes in distress.

The mission wasn't the way we had figured it. We had expected to see German fortifications give back blow for blow with our ships. There was no sign of it. —— We had expected to see the Luftwaffe out in its full remaining strength to try to stop our planes

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or at least strike a blow against our landing craft. We didn't see either. We had expected to find enemy territory full of antiaircraft, and alive with reserves moving into threatened areas. We didn't see that.

~~xxxxxxxx~~ The circumstances of our flight - the fact that we got there simultaneously with the invading troops and left in a minute - ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~and the poor light of early morning~~ made it impossible to darw any far reaching conclusions on how the battle is going.

But one thing we can say already - and that is that our air supremacy over the coastal invasion zone today is ~~xx~~ unchallenged.

2 June 1944

Hottelet | Murrow Fortress | Lead-in 1165AM ~~12x02PM~~

This is London.

It's bombing weather again over Western Europe. We've heard the droning of planes all morning, and it ~~looks~~ sounded as if they were out in some strength.

Columbia's Edward R. Murrow is up there right now in a B- 17. And he's going to try to do something that has never been done before. He's going to try to give a radio picture of a bombing mission step by step as it develops.

Ed is flying in a Fortress ~~that's been~~ appropriately named "Report to the Nation". Engineers have built a special radio transmitter into the ship, and Ed's voice will be ~~relayed~~ picked up in London and relayed straight across the Atlantic.

He is going to broadcast at least ~~three~~ two times during the flight - once as he crosses the enemy coast, then as the plane goes into the bomb run. ~~and then again when the Fort gets back to its home base.~~

We don't know what the target ~~it~~ is, or ~~what~~ which route they're flying.

We've picked up Ed telling us he's coming through - and the next voice you hear will be Edward R. Murrow in a Fortress over Europe.

Hottelet 30 May 1944 midnite

For the fourth day in succession our heavy bombers went in after targets in Germany today. Once again ~~xxxxx~~ aircraft factories and airfields were bombed by almost a thousand bombers escorted by something like 1200 fighters. ~~Part of this~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ force also went after railroad yards and other military targets in Belgium and Northern France. --------- And that was only the Strategic Air Force. While the heavies were ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ upstairs with ~~their sledge hammers~~, the medium bombers and fighter bombers and the rocket carrying typhoons were all over the map too, albeit ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ somewhat lower down so ~~as to make a neat hole in~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ their targets. ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ Austria - Belgium , France, Germany: Railroad yards, bridges, roads, factories, pillboxes. If St. Peter were watching today he'd probably say, "Ike Eisenhower must be taking xylophone lessons." Apart from todays thorough ~~xxxx~~ bombing job there are two reasons to feel good. For one thing our losses were low. Sofar we know of 20 planes ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~, but for them we shot down 66 German fighters. That means ~~it~~ since Saturday our air forces in western and southern Europe have shot down 384 enemy planes - which is not far from Germany's monthly production. And the second reason is that the Ninth Air Force has kept on breaking records ~~during the day~~. The busy seven dwarfs of bombing have now flown more than 14,000 individual attacks in the last twelve days and dropped more than 8500 tons of bombs.

The weather in the straits was beautifully sunny and our medium bombers and fighters ~~went~~ were going out on missions as late as nine o'clock. It was warm, too. Some of the [illegible] came back so hot the mechanics had to douse them with cold water before they could touch them. One of the Liberator pilots ~~came back and~~ said it was the warmest raid he'd been on - only 16 below.

ain in this war had ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ had no secret negotiations of any kind with anybody.

Hottelet 30 May 1944 midnite

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Hottelet 25 May 1944 midnite

This afternoon the British House of Commons finished a two day debate on foreign affairs. This kind of debate is a most important event in British political life and deserves careful attention, Because it isn't a legislative argument. It's an occasion on which the Government and the ruling body of England formally proclaim the country's policy,- in majority and minority opinions.

The Members of Parliament who spoke today emphasized two main things. One was the position of the British Empire as a unit in world politics. And the other was the necessity of a world organization in which Europe would be a stable member. Two of the M.P.'s went as far as saying that if some sort of United States of Europe were not set up there would certainly be a third world war.

Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden cloded the debate. He repeated what Prime Minister Churchill said yesterday - but he added one statement that is very good news. He said that Britain in this war had had no secret negotiations of any kind with anybody In other words, even though we may legitimately complain that the people who make foreign policy don't quite know where they're going, we can at least be sure that we haven't been sold down the river in advance.

In other words, even though we may legitimately complain that the people who make foreign policy don't quite know where they're going, we can at least be sure that we haven't been sold down the river in advance.

This evening the British Admiralty made its own contribution to the debate.

It broadcast an appeal for photographs of Japanese occupied territory taken by civilian travellers in peace time. They'll be used in preparing operational plans.

That is a statement of foreign policy about which there is no ambiguity.

Now back to General Electric in New York.

Hottelet Old Gold 0208~~[illegible]~~20 - 0211~~[illegible]~~20 24/5/44

..... All right, Richard Hottelet, Come in London.

With me in the studio are five GI's and a lovely Army nurse, who want to send their warm regards to the folks at home.

First there's T/5 Dominick C. Preston from 1586 Prairie Street in Detroit, Michigan,-- where he hopes Nan has the radio on good and loud. How about it, Dom?

PRESTON: I'm in the guardhouse now, but on the right side of the bars. They've made me cook and baker.

After I get back, and we have our own home, I might even round up the boys from Red's bar on the west side and cook them a meal. I've put on weight eating my own cooking, so it can't be too bad. ~~But I guess Nan can still teach me some tricks.~~

HOTTELET: And here's Corporal Jerome C. Bartlett from Nekoosa, Wisconsin. Jerry was one of the first American soldiers to arrive in Britain, 27 months ago.

BARTLETT: It's been a long time, but I've learned a lot. I've seen some of England - and many of the people who make history. Like the King and Queen and General Eisenhower.

I'm thinking a lot about what I'm going to do after the war, and I figure I'd like to get into air conditioning. But if I go back to my old job I'd like to go back to machine number five at the Port mill.

HOTTELET: Up at the mike now is T/4 Morris Bluestein of ~~the~~ 2948 College Avenue, Indianapolis, ~~Bluesteins~~. How're you doin', Morris?

BLUESTEIN: I'm doing swell. I'm company clerk and can use my accounting. It's a good job, but the moment this war is over I want to ~~go~~ GET back to Indiana. I don't want to travel any more for a while.

I got A package ~~came~~ from home the other day with canned olives - they're swell. But I'm afraid to wear the two pairs of pajamas Mom sent, because they're too loud.

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HOTTELET: And now to Private first class William H. Hamby from NE 112th Street, Portland, Oregon. How do you feel, Bill?

HAMBY: I'M fine. I've just spent a week in the hospital, but there was nothing wrong with me except a cold. That's the way the Army is. They don't take chances with your health.

Right now I'd give my war bonus for an evening out at Jantzen Beach Ballroom with my girl -- and the band playing "A String of Pearls". But I'd have to take these GI shoes off my feet first. ~~-- they make 'em look like Li'l Abner.~~

HOTTELET: And here's young private first class Robert Ammann of Mercer Avenue in Akron, Ohio.

How do you like England, Robert?

AMMANN: I get a taste of home here too, now and then. Brother Elmer's here and I saw him last Sunday.

And we've got a bible class - we call it the victory bible class - every wednesday night. ~~Lots of civilians come to it and~~ an army mess across the street EVEN sends over coffee and cake for our social hour.

But it's not all socials here. I'm in a General Service Section, and they keep us hopping with all kinds of work.

HOTTELET: And here's our Army nurse - lovely Lieutenant Eva Marie Cox of Ewing Avenue, West Trenton, New Jersey. With that honey colored hair and bright blue eyes, do you feel as good as you look?

COX: I feel better every day, even though I don't get much chance to play tennis or go swimming any more. We're working harder since we got transferred to London, and I can only get off to see a play now and then. I often wonder how I'd look in some of the pretty clothes they wear on the stage.

HOTTELET: Well, Lieutenant, there'll come a day.

This is Richard Hottelet returning you to Allen Jones in New York.

Hottelet 23 may 1944 noon

The American Air Force took up this morning where the RAF left off - and sent strong formations of Forts and Libs to bomb airfields and marshalling yards in France and other targets in Germany. Today's was a big show - with more than 1500x fighters covering our heavies.

Only a few hours before,the RAF had sent more thanx a thousand bombers to hit rail targets xx at Dortmund and Brunswick in Germany and Orleans and Lemans in France.

And the job our airforces are doing on the enemy's communications draws a compliment even from the enemy this morning. A Paris radio commentator moaned this morning that x French railroads are in a state of chaos.

The bombing is, of course, the most spectacular invasion preparation. But xx a lot is being done too, outside the military field. Right now, for instance, representatives of 12 allied governments are meeting in London to talk over food problems. Because liberation is going to do Europe no good if its xxxxxxx first result is starvation. We're aiming at providing each person in Europe with 2,000 calories a day to start off x with. It's not much, but it's more than the Germans are giving them. Relief supplies will be bought by each Government and distributed through normal commercial channels. Rationing will be continued.

Another thing in the works in London is

some very pleasant news for Denmark and the Danish people. You'll remember that last week,wwhen the civil affairs agreements were signed in London it was merely said that Denmark would be ~~xxxxx~~ treated as an ally. Well, Britain and America have now worked out a statement which makes this more definite. As I understand it the statement ~~xxlx~~ says that King Christian of Denmark will be recognized as the ~~xx~~ legitimate authority in his country, and that the entry of Allied troops into Denmark will be governed by the same conditions as apply to - say- Norway or Holland. I'm told that a copy of this statement was smuggled in to King Christian and that he was very pleased ~~xm~~ indeed. At the moment the text of the statement is in ~~Mmx~~ Moscow awaiting Russia's formal approval before publication.

~~Anzxjusxzasxanotherxexamplexofxhatzxxnxhxxixx~~ Yesterday ~~goingzmnxinzLondnnx~~ Prime Minister Churchill spent an hour ~~xzszxxdxx/xxx~~ the two ~~mffxxxxx~~ Yugoslav officers whom Marshal Tito sent to London. Both sides are reported to be very satisfied. Mr. Churchill may have something to say about it in his speech tomorrow.

It may look as if there weren't much doing here at the moment - apart from bombing. But there's plenty. ---- And there are plenty of rumors, too. Like the story from the American Air Force base this morning of the boys who got all steamed up because for the third day running they got French toast for breakfast.

DICK HOTTELET 20th May, 1944. Midnight

British and American planes today hung up some new records in the air war against Germany. Since dawn this morning more than 5,000 missions were flown against targets in Belgium and France. Some of the targets mentioned today are particularly interesting - they're things like bridges and road crossings and embankments - apart from the usual air fields and railroad lines and so-called "military objectives". We're out to immobilize the German forces in the west - and there's no target so small now that it's not worth while.

The planes that were sent out today by the US Strategic Air Force and by the Allied Expeditionary Air Force roamed over western Europe literally from dawn until after dark. They did not meet ~~any~~ enemy fighters in any strength, and our losses reported so far have been light.

This afternoon the BBC and the American Broadcasting Station in Europe intensified the psychological warfare campaign against the Germans. Patriots in Europe were asked to gather military information which will be useful to our intelligence - information like makrs on vehicles and regimental insignia, and the whereabouts of ammunition and supply dumps. This is something everyone can do without great risk. The order ended with the words: "Be patient above all and hide all your actions -- until the word is given".

The message was broadcast by an officer in supreme headquarters - who advised the listeners in Europe to get to know his voice. It is this voice that will transmit General Eisenhower's commands on invasion day, and we want it known so well that the Germans will not be able to fake it and give European patriots false orders.

I return you now to General Electric in New York.

DICK HOTTEEET 16th May 1944 Midnight
0048.50 - 49.35

There's been no air activity from this country today, so our war news comes mainly from the Italian front. And we notice tonight that comment on the fighting in Italy has become more conservative and cautious even since this morning. The early papers had the Gustav line smashed and our troops surging forward - by this afternoon they were already localizing the successes and tonight great care is being taken to report the Italian front without benefit of romantic hopes. It's being pointed out that the Germans are fighting well on difficult ground, and that we've got some tough problems in moving our supplies forward.

Here in London we're not inclined to think this new caution is preparing an alibi, it's just part of a deliverate effort to be very realistic and keep the poetry out of war reporting. Which is a very good thing. This raising of false expectations is a lesson for those of us waiting in England to report the invasion - a lesson to stick to the bare facts and not go off the deep end of conjecture.

There's some fine political news to report from London tonight. Civil Administration agreements were at long last signed with Belgium, Luxemburg, Holland and Norway. These are the master agreements that give General Eisenhower temporary power - as Allied Commander in Chief - to administer territory in each of the countries. But we haven't yet got our political house completely in order for liberation. Several important financial details have still got to be settled. And, most important, some sort of civil affairs arrangement has still to be made for France.

I return you now to General Electric in New York.

Hottelet 15 may 1944 noon

Our bombers are out against western Europe again today. Since early morning (~~fighter bombers, medium bombers and the big forts and liberators have~~ THEY'VE been going out over the Channel. It looks as if the boys are eager to get going again after the ~~24 hour rest~~ REST the weather gave them ~~yesterday.~~ OVER THE WEEK END.

The first official word of todays bombing is that our heavies have hit targets in Northern France. But deeper inland German radio stations at Bremen and Cologne and Frankfutt have ~~xxxx~~ gone off the air. (~~This business of radio stations going off the air is no longer a reliable indication of air attack. Nowadays they have a perpetual case of jitters and shut down when there's no more then some fast raiders in the general naborhood.~~)

Last night the Germans came to England again for the first time in a fortnight. They dropped bombs on scattered points ~~in~~ along the southern coastal area. The Germans say they hit Bristol. ---- But it's generally assumed that the purpose of these raids was ~~xx~~ not to bomb, but to carry out ~~a~~ reconnaissance. fighters don't have far to fly, so they can carry a couple of bo's f g m ~~in strength~~./During the last couple of weeks we've had bright moonlight - ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ and with the longer days we haven't really had much darkness AT ALL. It's practically suicide for a German plane to come over England except in the black of night, so the Luftwaffe waited for the moon to wane before sending out its fast camera planes.

But the German High Command must want photographic information about the invasion springboard pretty badly, because when the spy planes did come they came with a rush. It's still prac-

tically suicide, though, because fifteen of them were shot down.

~~Here is one field~~ THIS, by the way, ~~in which~~ IS WHERE our bombing of German aircraft factories is already ~~producing~~ PAYING dividends. Our own air superiority is forcing the Germans to ~~do more and more flying jobs with their fastest fighters.~~ USE THEIR FASTEST FIGHTERS FOR MANY DIFFERENT PURPOSES. Their slower planes are sitting ducks for our ~~fast~~ SWIFT intruders all up and down western Europe. --- And experience at Anzio has shown that the Luftwaffe's only hope of ~~effectively bombing~~ (BREAKING THROUGH AND STABBING AT) our invasion forces is by using fighter bombers. ---- But, while ~~they~~ the Germans need more ~~[illegible]~~ fighters for more jobs our bombing over the last~~x~~ couple of months has ~~[illegible]~~ cut them down. It's estimated that today the German aircraft industry is producing only 450 fighters a month. If it hadn't been for ~~our~~ (BRITISH AND AMERICAN) bombing ~~the Germans, [illegible] with~~ their special priority plan for fighter construction would today be ~~building~~ GIVING THEM three thousand fighters a month.

Hottelet 15 may 1944 noon

The American Army took a short breather from its hard and deadly work yesterday to bring an American custom to Britain. It was Mother's Day. ~~in the American Red Cross clubs here and in some British homes~~ Our soldiers couldn't be with their own mothers, so they entertained British mothers in American Red Cross Clubs. And they brought flowers and boxes of candy to mothers in British homes where they had enjoyed hospitality.

~~It's more than two years now since the first American soldier landed in Britain, and since then the English mother has gone out of her way to give our troops a taste of home. Lots of the men have really been taken into the family in place of the real son who is overseas. ..... You'll hear a lot about this when the boys come back.~~

~~Anyway, yesterday the Americans took the the opportunity to say Thank You, in a big way before they leave England -- going East.~~

IT WAS THEIR WAY OF SAYING THANK YOU, BEFORE THEY LEAVE ENGLAND — GOING EAST.

Hottelet 14 May 1944 noon

Latest German radio reports say that the fighting in Italy is getting fiercer every hour. But here, in this theater, there's been a lull in the air war.

Hottelet 14 May 1944 noon

It's three o'clock in the afternoon here and sofar there's been no word of air attacks against western Europe. The last twentyfour hours have been very windy. The weather over the English channel is beginning to improve ~~again~~ now though, and may give our air forces the chance to go out again.

The suddenness with which weather has changed from fair to stormy on several occasions since the beginning of May is not exactly reassuring to the invasion command. The weather is one vital factor that's not under our control.

But, if the possibility of storms is an unpleasant one as far as we're concerned, it doesn't provide the Germans with much comfort. It is not very likely that storms will catch us by surprise. In this part of the world weather has a tendency to start around Greenland and move down, roughly from west to east. For instance, the weather in the channel during the past twentyfour hours has probably been moving across the Atlantic for several days;- ~~perhaps~~ And, at each stage of the journey it's ~~probably~~ been charted and analyzed, and our invasion command in England has been able to follow it on a map like the movement of a military force. --- The weather ~~people~~ observers in Greenland and Iceland and in between are going to be playing a vital part in this invasion. They can tell General Eisenhower many days ahead what the weather's going to be, and he can make his plans ~~accordingly~~ to take advantage of it. And that gives him another weapon of surprise.

1 The Germans, of course, are very busy listing all the advantages they're going to have in the coming operation. Their military experts keep repeating that the defensive is the stronger form of warfare and how Hitler has made enormous preparations to cook our goose.

But, For all the fortifications the Germans have built and the men and guns they've collected in western Europe, we've got the jump on them in one big thing. We can plan our operation pretty much in detail. 2 We've got good information about what the Germans have, and we've got the dope on many of the other elements of surprise --- like the weather. But the enemy has to do a lot of things we want him to do. He will fight on battlefields that we choose, and he will meet the weapons and men we've decided to send in. All the plans Hitler has made for various contingencies may have to be junked if we pull a trick out of the hat that he hadn't reckoned with.

And there'll be plenty of tricks.

I return you now to CBS in N.Y.

Hottelet Mild and Bitter 19 May 1944 0515:30 DBST

This afternoon an old Marauder bomber named "Mild and Bitter" went out on a mission to France and made history. This old B-26 flew its 100 th ~~mission~~ missions attack - more than any single plane has ever flown against the Germans.

It took some hard flying and working on the part of all concerned because Mild and Bitter was racing neck and neck toward this record with and RAF Lancaster named S for Sugar. But the B-26 won out. And thereby hangs a tale - a tale of singular devotion on the part of a lot of people, and of an airplane paying back love for love.

About a year ago a young crew chief was posted to a Ninth Air Force bomber base. His name was Bill Stuart, and he came from Donna, Texas. The Marauder was a new bomber then, and some people were suspicious of it. Committees in America were investigating it. Bill Stuart's plane went out on a raid - the second raid the Marauders ever made in this theater - and it didn't come back. Not a single plane came back.

It was clear that the ship wasn't being used right - because the plane as such was a good one. So they issued some more Marauders. Now Bill Stuart was new to England and new to English beer. He couldn't make up his mind quite whether he liked it. And when he got his new Marauder he named it Mild and Bitter, after the two main types of English beer, because he wasn't quite sure in his own mind whether he liked IT, either.

Bill sent the Marauder out on its first mission last July. ~~And today this afternoon~~ The pilot was a certain Paul Shannon, of Attica, Kansas. ~~Today~~ And this afternoon Bill sent it out again - on its hundredth trip. And once again the pilot was Capt. Paul Shannon of Attica, Kansas.

~~But~~ In the meanwhile Bill Stuart had done what no crew chief has ever done - he had kept the same plane in the air for almost five-hundred operational hours - with the same engines and with not one single case of mechanical failure. On occasion the plane has been shot up, and Bill and his crew have repaired it in plenty of time for the next scheduled flight.

And - just in case you think that maybe someone was favoring the plane and building up its total with easy ~~trips~~ and infrequent trips - let me tell you this. In the last 36 hours Mild and Bitter has flown four missions - which is practically a record in itself. It's taken every mission and every crew on schedule.

I went out to the airfield this afternoon to go out with the plane on her hundredth trip, and I'll confess that I expected to find her assigned to the most protected position and manned by a picked crew. But I found that to the operations officer she was just another plane.

On this trip she was wing plane in the lead formation - which is no rest cure. And her crew - apart from her veteran pilot, were boys who averaged four or five missions - not much at all for a Marauder gang. I went out to the dispersal point and looked the ship over. She was a weather-beaten old gal - she was patched up and dented by Flak, and the sheer friction of the wind had peeled the ~~leading edges off~~ paint off the leading edges of the wings.

We were to take ~~took off~~ at 6:25 to bomb an airfield at Evreux, about 30 miles west of Paris. There was every reason to believe that we were going to meet not only heavy Flak, but also fighter opposition. Yesterday morning the Mild and Bitter had seen its wing plane shot down by a fighter. So the old lady was not being sent into peaceful old age. Well, we took off on schedule, and we rendezvoused with the rest of the formation exactly on time. And we rose up through the English haze to get out across the Channel on the nose.

We had been told in the briefing when and where to expect Flak - and sure enough we got it just there and just then. We dipped and wheeled and climbed and the old B 26 was as graceful as a gull, in spite of her gray hair. The Flak began to burst around us about 20 minutes to eight, nasty, oily, little mushrooms of black and brown smoke.

You get worried a little when you see those things, because you think of the bellyful of bombs your plane is carrying. You know that one direct hit is all you need to be suddenly turned into smithereens. But, when we began to see the flashes of the bursting shells was when I really got worried. They were getting too close. And then some flak fragments hit our belly - like someone throwing gravel, - hard - against a tin garage wall.

That was the worst scare we got, though. After that the flak was only intermittent, and we made our various landmarks without any trouble.

Down below us the only sign of life I could see apart from the gun flashes was a railroad train that went puffing along, with white smoke streaming out behind it as if it were scurrying away from us. There didn't seem to be any signs of life in the villages we passed. Nor could I see any signs of the German Atlantic Wall - with all its fortifications and all the troops Rommel claims to have brought in. They were well camouflaged.

We went into our bomb run on time, and as far as I could see dropped a blanket of bombs square on the primary target. And from there on it began to dawn on me what it meant to be on the 100th trip of the Mild and Bitter. It was no freak -- the ship is a lucky one certainly, but it is much more the product of painstaking labor and organization. Even the young radio operator who looked at me with a woeful expression over France and announced that he had forgotten his parachute didn't detract from the

main impression. That impression was one of efficiency and knowledge - backed by courage and .. affection.

And this combination is one that'll stand us all in good stead ~~in the times to come.~~ pretty soon.

— Division.

Hottelet: To be exact, it's Staff Sergeant Dennis Donovan of Portland, Oregon. And a better armored force sergeant you couldn't find.

He's big, and hard as nails and his complexion is very red. But he's no oldtime drill sergeant. He's young, and typical of our new, fast, mechanized army.

He played quarterback on the varsity team at the University of Oregon. And he learned about machinery in the California oil fields.

The Army took him and trained him and in three years taught him just about all there is to know about tanks. Today he's platoon sergeant. And any armored force officer'll tell you that's the most important job in the division.

45

Did your football help you dig in, Denny?

Donovan: Anything that teaches teamwork helps you in this business. An armored division is just about like a big team. And the individual tank is a team - only more so, because you're playing for keeps.

Each man knows the other's job as well as he knows his own. If the tank commander gets knocked out, the gunner can take his place. And if the radio conks out, the sergeant in command can handle his tank alone.

1^{00}

DONOVAN: It's the same in my job. If the platoon leader goes I've got to take command of the platoon.

Hottelet: This policy of every man a sergeant and every sergeant an officer will probably pay off well.

Donovan: When D-Day comes you're going to see teamwork like you've never seen before. .... Tank men think they're pretty good, but we don't think we're the only ones in the show. We're going to be part of a bigger combat team composed of all arms. We're going to help the infantry and artillery and even the air force -- and they're going to help us.

Hottelet: How did this teamwork develop?

Donovan: Well, you take a bunch of fellows who're good boys to start with. And then you train them so they can do their job in their sleep. . But while you're doing that, you take care that you don't just make machines out of them. The tanks are the machines - so you teach the boys to think about their job and use their imagination at it, and see how it fits in with what the others are doing.

Sometimes - when we were digging ourselves out of bogs in Louisiana, or when we were in the desert (BACK HOME) and it was 135 degrees Fahrenheit inside the tank, and we drove until we were half dead through sandstorms and in pitch black night - sometimes I wondered what good it was doing us. ... Well, I know now. It's given us the stuff to do the job we're over here for.

DONOVAN: But we're still training, even here in England. We're still improving our tactics and learning new tricks. Maneuvers never stop.

You've got to be good to beat those Germans, and you get good only by working.// I think we'll be good enough.

Hottelet: Whether D-Day comes tomorrow or many days from tomorrow, Sergeant Donovan and the men with him will be ready to go.

Hottelet 5 May 1944 midnite

The big story in England tonight is what the weather has done to the war in the west. Up to about half past nine this morning it looked as if the British and American air forces were going to conduct business as usual over western Europe. But all of a sudden a wind blew up and the sky became covered with black clouds. Rain came down in torrents as gusts of wind whipped the Channel into white capped waves. This afternoon the wind got even stronger - and it looks as if ~~mmxxpixmmx~~ it's grounded our planes. .... This kind of weather is not unseasonal for ~~M~~ early May. And it's a good thing for all us armchair strategists to keep in mind. If an invasion fleet had been in the channel this afternoon it might easily have met the fate of the Spanish Armada.

It's a relief to be ~~xmkx~~ allowed to talk about the weather for a change, ~~xmxmx~~ Some other things we can say about it tonight are that it's been colder than normal - which our American soldiers haven' liked - ~~xmx~~ but drier, which they have. ~~Thersxlszbeenxmuchzlessx~~Rainfall this spring has been far below normal - and that has its military implications too. It reduces the efficiency of the inland canal system and throws a greater burden on rail transport. That's why the Ministry of War Transport announced today that civilian railroad timetables ~~xmm~~ would be cut to the bone when the ~~xmxandxxxmmx~~ invasion starts.

But old Jupiter Pluvius isn't altogether on Hitler's side. ~~Mm~~ It's revealed tonight that we had enough clear days last and throws a greater burden on rail transport. That's why the Ministry of War Transport announced today that civilian railroad timetables ~~xm~~ would be cut to the bone when the ~~second front~~ invasion starts.

But old Jupiter Pluvius isn't altogether on Hitler's side. ~~Hm~~ It's revealed tonight that we had enough clear days last month~~s~~ to let our photo reconnaissance planes run as they pleased. It's reported that they took more than half a million pictures of the western European coast.

On the German side of the fence the big story continues to be the imminence of invasion. Goebbels keeps predicting the big attack from one day to the next. He's doing this not only to put his own people on their toes, but also to put our nerves on edge. Warning voices are being raised in London against accepting Goebbels' timetable. Our command has its own schedule - and D Day will be as much of a surprise ~~to~~ for Geobbels as it will for the rest of us.

hottelet 3 may 1944 midnight

The air offensive ~~from~~ on German Europe was not on quite aslarge a scale today as it has been the last couple of ~~xxxxx~~ weeks. It may be that the weather has provided a momentary breathing spell. It was cold across the channel today, there was a high wind ~~x~~ and the visibility was none too good. ...... Tonight German radio stations are again reporting the approach of Allied bombers on western Germany.

The Air Ministry tonight released the story of ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ a daredevil attack by RAF Mosquitoes on a single building in the capital of Holland. Not long ago the British got secret word that a certain five story house in the Hague contained thousands of documents which were of particular value to the Germans. The Second Tactical Air Force was asked if it would do the job. It agreed to do it with a squadron of Mosquitoes at twelve hours notice.

The idea was to blow the certain house to smithereens, but to avoid injuring civilians and to leave the houses around it unscathed. ~~And~~ To make it more ~~xxxxxxx~~ difficult it was pointed out that the attack would have to succeed the first time, because an unsuccessful attempt would tip the Germans off and give them time to take countermeasures.

The mosquitoes did their job well the first time. They came in at about 400 miles an hour ~~xxxxx~~ on the level of the third floor of the ~~xxxxxxxx~~ building, skipped delayed action ~~their~~ bombs into the front door and the ground floor windows dropped incendiaries on the place for good measure and roared away. By the time the sixth mosquito laid its eggs the building just wasn't there any more, so the rest ~~xxxx~~ bombed so

The mosquitoes did their job well the first time.

at about 400 miles an hour
They came in xxxxx on the level of the third floor of the xxxxxxxxx
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windows/and roared away. By the time the sixth mosquito laid its eggs
the rest
the building just wasn't there any more, so xxxx bombed so

a German barracks lying right behind it.

Reconnaissance pictures taken after the attack show a pile of junk where the certain building once stood with its important documents -- and the houses all around almost completely undamaged.

That's what the British would call a "good show".

The mosquitoes did their job well the first time.

hottelet 3 may 1944 noon

Germany was spared heavy air attack last night. But RAF mosquitoes bombed the big chemical works at Leverkusen.

It looks as if we're out again today, though. Enemy radio stations have reported bombs on northern France, and single planes over southwest Germany.

Hottelet 3 May 1944 noon

In the House of Commons this morning Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden was asked whether agreement had been reached on who was to administer France during and after liberation. Mr. Eden said he welcomed the opportunity to emphasize that the British Government agreed completely with Secretary of State Cordell Hull's recent statement on the subject. That statement, you remember, said America was disposed to recognize DeGaulle's committee as controlled by the Assembly.

Mr. Eden went on to say that General Eisenhower was now having conversations in London with the French Committee's military delegate. The purpose of those talks being to work out detailed arrangements.

If this means that we're not losing any more time arguing about the broad principles involved, and have started talking about the practical problems of French civil administration, then Mr. Eden's words today are most satisfactory.

In the meanwhile the Supreme Allied Command here is continuing its talks with the various exiled governments on the same subject of civil administration. So far these negotiations have been very cordial - and there is complete agreement on the important principles. There is no suspicion of our political motives. It's an aforegone conclusion that liberated territory - and freedom of action - are going to be turned over to the recognized national authority as soon as military conditions permit.

It's expected in London that Britain and America

will soon conclude agreements with Norway, Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg very much along the lines of the Soviet-Czech civil affairs treaty. The form will probably be that these governments will transfer some of their powers to General Eisenhower as Supreme Allied Commander.

But there are a lot of details still to be worked out. The whole question of the rate of exchange is still up in the air. And it's not been agreed yet whether the Allied troops will bring military currency into liberated areas or whether they'll bring appropriate national money. These matters are vital for economic recovery. The details of the relief of liberated areas haven't been agreed upon yet either - even the ones that can intelligently be dealt with now.

The funny thing is that noone seems to know exactly why these things are held up. The usual answer you get is that "directives haven't arrived".

I wonder what General Eisenhower would do if he were told that "the maps hadn't arrived."

C.B.S. REPORT FROM LONDON: SATURDAY APRIL 29, 1944. 2200-2215 DBST.

Cpl + Mrs. Kjersgaard

2200:20 = 2214:15

HOTTELET: It's no secret that practically everyone on this island is preparing for invasion - in one way and another. And we've been telling the story of those preparations day by day. It's a grim story - of air assault on the enemy by day and by night; of the growing strength of our armies, and of mounting tension.

But it's not the whole story. ~~It's not as if everyone in Britain were living in a foxhole or spending his days and nights in an invasion barge. It'd be wrong to think of our American soldiers here as gimlet-eyed bundles of nerves, waiting with hairy faces and tight muscles and clenched jaws to jump into Europe.~~ There's still fun and relaxation to be had for soldiers as well as civilians. And you know as well as I that where there's fun to be had the American soldier will have it. If we were giving a serious lecture - which we're not - we'd point out that this is a very good thing - a typically American thing. Americans always prefer to go into a tough spot relaxed. When you're in excellent condition and have confidence in yourself, your leaders and your equipment you don't have to be all keyed up and nervous.

~~This afternoon we're going to try to put the picture of pre-invasion Britain into slightly better focus.~~

~~Now, war or no war, to relax and enjoy yourself anywhere you've got to feel at home. Of course that means you've got to like the people you're with and they've got to like you;~~

HOTTELET: ~~but in the case of most American boys it's even more specific.~~

Now, different people relax and enjoy themselves in different ways. But if you asked all the wives and mothers of America what their menfolk enjoyed most, they'd probably say - good food. Which is where Carlota comes in, because she provides just that, and on a large scale. Her full name is Mrs. Carlota Oppenheimer. She's a charming Englishwoman with snow white hair/and warm brown eyes that invite you to have a piece of cake by just looking at you. She's only five feet three, which is deceptive, because it makes it hard to imagine where she gets the energy to do what she does.

[~~Ever since American troops arrived in Britain Carlotta has been providing hundreds of them with the contented feeling in the stomach and the warm hospitality that spells home. Her house, her garden and all her time are devoted to producing cake and jam, vegetables and fruit and eggs to send to our soldiers and to British and Canadian hospitals here.~~] Listen to just a few of the things Carlota has given away to American, British and Canadian soldiers in the last two years: 26,000 fresh eggs; 16,000 lettuces; ~~6,000 pounds of tomatoes and~~ thousands of pounds of fruit. She's also made and given away over six tons of cake and six tons of jam. All week long army trucks pull up to her lovely home and load them aboard. And on Sundays Carlota relaxes - by having a dozen

HOTTELET: hungry soldiers come and visit her so she can feed them herself.

Carlota, I know it sounds strange, but why have you taken such an interest in the American soldiers here?

CARLOTA: Growing food for them helps me to pay off a little of the debt that I owe your country. I spent nearly a year in the United States from 1938 till 1939, and have never had a more wonderful time in all my life. I felt at home every minute I was there, so now I want to make your boys feel at home here. It's a good thing I got to know all parts of your country because now I know what the different boys like. Fried chicken makes a southerner forget the grey skies and brussels sprouts of wartime England. A New Englander practically weeps when I give him real maple sugar. And there's no case of the blues that two eggs, sunny side up with crisp bacon, won't cure.

HOTTELET: HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO COOK ? ~~But certainly you don't grow your own maple sugar~~?

CARLOTA: ~~No, but friends of mine abroad send me a lot of things you can't get here. Otherwise I couldn't keep going. And the boys themselves often give me some of the good things they've received in parcels from home, and which are very helpful in my cake-making. As for cooking ideas~~ - well, I've probably got more recipes than many an American housewife. Whilst I was in New York I did a radio broadcast and said I was interested in American recipes. And you should have seen the

CARLOTA: flood of mail. I received over 3,000 letters all enclosing different recipes. They're coming in very handy now.

Apart from that I learned to make some specialities myself. In Savannah I learned how to fry chicken, and all over the United States I found the secret of making real hot bread. But I think most important of all was learning how to make coffee as your boys like it. That's one of the things of which they can never get enough.

HOTTELET: What else do the boys like?

CARLOTA: They like all kinds of salads, vegetables and fruits. But it's when you come to cake that you find unquenchable enthusiasm. There's no end to the cakes and cookies the boys will eat. We have our own milk here and our own fruit, so we can make ice cream. They like that too. They've got marvellously healthy appetites for most things.

But don't think for a minute that they're greedy. Just as Americans are the best hosts in the world, so are they the most considerate, appreciative and charming guests. They have wonderful manners.

When your soldiers first came some people were afraid to invite them into their homes because they thought Americans would expect lavish and expensive entertainment, and a lot of liquor now almost unobtainable. But we've never found that. The boys just want a home and that's what I try to give them.

HOTTELET: When Carlota returned from her trip to the United States she wrote a book called "America is OK by Me". And when some American outfits come back from Europe their theme song is going to be "Carlota is OK by Us".

4^{35}

HOTTELET: And speaking of theme songs, these soldiers of ours in Britain are no grim and silent gang. Mrs. America, your son is still humming the same tunes he used to whistle when he came stomping his muddy feet into your nice clean kitchen. And Miss America, he likes jive - or waltzes - about as much as when he last kicked your shins around the dance floor.

~~You can tell a lot about an army fromthe way it makes and takes its music. And you certainly wouldn't know from our gang's musical tastes that it's on its toes for the biggest, toughest, bloodiest job it'll ever have to do.~~

Here's Staff Sergeant Jack Schafer of Detroit, Michigan who can give us as good an idea as anyone of the GI hit parade in the European Theater. Jack works for Special Services here and has taken his guitar to American camps from one end of England to the other.

SCHAFER: You're right about this bunch not being grim. And judging from the songs they like to listen to and sing, they're a
4'
X different Army from the one that ~~went~~ CAME to Europe in the last war. The boys here don't go much for war songs. You never
5^{30} hear "Over There", or "Johhny get your gun" - and it's only occasionally that you'll hear "Pack up your troubles". And they don't go much for the patriotic stuff, either, the way they did back home.

HOTTELET: Well, if they don't go for the rousing tunes, or for patriotic songs so much, what do they sing?

SCHAFER: They like the songs that remind them of home, and the crowd they used to hang around with and the dances they went to.

6 Mostly the dance tunes ~~that've~~ THAT HAVE been popular in the States in the last ten years, ~~I'd say.~~

And the boys like songs from their own part of the country. The southern boys ask for things like "San Antonio Rose", and "The Steel Guitar Blues". AND! Everybody gets together on "Deep in the Heart of Texas", ~~though.~~ All of them, doesn't matter what part of the country they're from, like to get a little sentimental. So, after a while when they get warmed up to singing they take out all the good old ballads LIKE ~~-~~ "Down by the Old Mill Stream", ~~and Old Black Joe" and "I Been Workin' on the Rail Road"~~. // And the southern boys keep asking for "Tumbleweed". Most of the boys like boogie woogie, too.

HOTTELET: How does it sound when they sing that?

SCHAFER: They don't sing boogie woogie. They mostly just like to listen to it. As a matter of fact, the boys like listening

Y to music as much as singing it. ~~The American Forces Network here in England broadcasts good popular music all through the day, and the boys eat it up.~~

~~HOTTELET: How does American music mix with English?~~

~~SCHAFER: Very well, on the whole. If you go into a pub in a town that has lots of Americans you'll always find in the evening that the crowd around the piano is half G.I. and half Britishers. But the songs they sing are usually American - that the people here have learned from our boys or from the American movies that come over.~~

HOTTELET: What about dancing?

SCHAFER: 7 50 I'd say about a quarter of our fellows are real jitterbugs. ~~When they come up to London on leave you can find them in the big Covent Garden dance hall. The English soldiers and girls love to watch 'em.~~

But all G.I's, whether they're hepcats or not, like to swing their feet. // One night I was playing at a camp show, ~~When the show~~ AND WHEN IT was ~~over~~ OVER about half the audience followed us out to a pub where we had to play some more. When the pub closed the G.I's and their girls made us keep on playing. And there, in the blackout in that little English town, the boys had a street dance. I've never seen anything like it.

HOTTELET: Of all the songs, old and new, what are the ones that top the G.I. Hit Parade~~?~~ in England?

SCHAFER: The ones the boys ask for more than any others are - "Stardust", "Begin the Beguine" and Night and Day".

HOTTELET: Well, they say music has charms to soothe the savage breast. But if you think the boys are going soft, here's Columbia's Larry Lesueur to teach you different.

8 00

LESUEUR: .... 3 minutes.

15

10

HOTTELET: Boxing is nothing new to the natives of this island, but the G.I's have brought other strange and wonderful sports. Here in England - as probably everywhere in the world where there are eighteen Americans ~~in or out of uniform~~ - this spring heard the shout of "Play Ball!".

HOTTELET: I know, and when this season is over you'll be saying - wait till next year. Anyway, you tell about London softball, or I will.

PAJONAS: OK. Once the G I's began to crowd into London - which was about a year ago - we naturally figured we'd play some ball. But today there are more than 100 teams in this town. With names like Penpusher and Sad Socks and Goldbricks.

PAJONAS: If that were the only shout the average Londoner heard it (WOULD) probably be all right. But when the air over Hyde Park is filled with howls of "take the Bum out" and "he swings like a rusty gate" - you can't blame people for getting bewildered.

HO[illegible]LET: OK, Al, if you want to describe it go ahead, but let me introduce you first. Private (FIRST CLASS) Al Pajonas of Plattsburgh, New York is the star 3rd baseman of the Air Transport Command soft ball team.

PAJONAS: (well, Dick.) I'm not a star - but ATC certainly has a swell team.

HOTTELET: Stop being patriotic and talk ball.

PAJ[illegible]AS: It's going to be a great season. | The boys are rarin' to go ....

HO[illegible]LET: I know, and when this season is over you'll be saying - wait till next year. Anyway, you tell about London softball, or I will.

PAJONAS: 13" OK. Once the GI's began to crowd into London - which was about a year ago- we naturally figured we'd play some ball. ~~Special Services fixed us up with gloves and bats. There wasn't much room, so we had to play softball instead of baseball.~~

PAJONAS: (Contd.) ~~Even so we monopolized large hunks of London's big parks - Hyde Park, Green Park and Regent's Park.~~ NOW THERE ARE MORE THAN 100 TEAMS ~~Pretty soon organized teams sprang up - they gave themselves~~ WITH names like Penpushers and Sad Socks and Goldbricks. ~~And it wasn't long before we had seven leagues in London alone. There's the 4F league, and the Porcupine and the Marble Arch and the Mayfair leagues. There's even an international softball league made up of some American and Canadian teams.~~

HOTTELET: 9 00 How do the British like the game?

PAJONAS: The spectators are about as much fun as the game. If the pitcher is good looking you get all the British ATS and WAAFS and Wrens giggling every time he throws the ball. And of course, none of the Londoners know what's right and what's wrong. They EVEN applaud every time there's a pop fly. They don't cheer, they clap their hands politely. It's probably impossible for a crowd in this country to go wild.

13

There are some people, though, who must have spent their early years in Brooklyn. There's one gent who looks like he works in the City - that's London's financial quarter, like Wall Street. He wears a dark jacket and striped pants and a stiff collar. He drives pitchers crazy by razzing them in his own way. He'll stand behind first base and quietly ask the pitcher if he's had his tea that morning, or whether

PAJONAS: (Contd.) he doesn't need more nourishment. It throws the boys for a loop.

HOTTELET: All this back talk in a baseball game must seem pretty strange to them.

PAJONAS: Yeah, in this country people aren't used to hearing players buck each other up or try to get on each others nerves. But what most of them can't understand is the way GI teams play with officers. One time there was a full colonel coaching third base, who kept ribbing the umpire. The umpire was a corporal. After a while it got on the corporal's nerves, so he walked back to the colonel and said "Sir, another word out of you and I'll throw you out of the game". The Colonel didn't say a word after that. But The crowd really liked it. 10 00

HOTTELET: Have you had any opposition from the local inhabitants.

PAJONAS: No, they all love the game except for one of the soap box orators at Marble Arch. He was talking about some funny religion or other - and you could see how his audience gradually dwindled. People kept walking away to watch our fellows play ball. You could see this GUY get madder and madder. Finally he stopped preaching and leaned forward and pointed at an innocent GI. In a loud bellow he said,

PAJONAS: (Contd.) "Yank, we gave you all the rest of London, why can't you leave us Hyde Park?"

HOTTELET: There you have it - Food, Music, Prize Fights and Baseball. There's a lot more to being an American in England than day and night invasion exercises. You know the saying about all work and no play - well GI Joe is not a dull boy. And Fritz on the other side of the channel will find it out before long.

This is Richard C. Hottelet Reporting from London. I return you now to CBS in New York.

C.B.S. DICK HOTTELET Weds. 26th April, 1944.
1401.30 - 1404 DBST

American heavy bombers in strength attacked targets in Central Germany this morning. The only word we have so far comes from the German radio, which says that German fighters went up to attack our formations.

This is the ninth day of large scale daylight air attacks

No matter which way we look at it, the weakest part of our invasion preparations continues to be the political. On this island right now are machines of war and a striking force stronger than has ever been gathered in a comparable area. And right now we're preparing to use those forces. Training is continuing all the time. Equipment is being improved - and when more, or different items are wanted they're requisitioned and they arrive. The atmosphere here on the military side is of people who know what they're going to do, how they're going to do it and what obstacles the enemy is going to try to put in their way.

That's where the contrast comes with the political preparation. One gets the impression more and more in London that our political initiative is lagging far behind its possibilities - that politically we don't know quite where we're going or how we're going to get there. Take today for instance.

Most of the London newspapers are headlining the possibility that Spain might now cut down her shipments of wolfram to Germany. That means we're back, in these negotiations, where we were three months ago. In the meanwhile Spain has continued to ship the ore to Germany. Now it takes time to refine wolfram and to alloy it with steel. If we had stopped shipments three months ago the Germans would be feeling it today. And today is when we want them to be getting weaker - not three months from now.

We have another political deficiency, which is leaving Goebbels the stage all to himself in talking about our concrete postwar plans. And, of course, he's painting a picture of complete destruction for Germany if she surrenders. By making his people desperate he's helping stiffen German resistance. In 1918 President Wilson's 14 points helped defeat Germany by shwoing that defeat would not mean destruction. A joint declaration by the United Nations along these lines today could still help our invasion.

It's too bad that the Commander in Chief does not seem to be able to requisition political assistance the way he can artillery.

hottelet 24 april 1944 midnite

Bitter air battles were fought over southern Germany today — fiercer than there've been for many weeks

The Luftwaffe came up after us ~~today~~ with a punch that it reserves for the defence of its really vital targets. A communique just out reveals that our heavy bombers and escorting fighters / shot down 103 German fighters in the ~~raids~~ attacks on ~~South Germany~~ Munich + Friedrichshafen today. Fifty-five of our own planes are missing from those operations. No details are available here yet as to how many of our losses were in bombers.

~~Crews reporting back from missions against Munich and Friedrichshaven had reported consistently heavy flak. But they ~~mentioned~~ said that fighter opposition was not uniformly heavy. It looks as if the Germans grouped their fightersto strike hardest at individual bomber formations.~~

While this report was coming in the air assault on Germany continued. Tonight German radio stations were going off the air after, once again, announcing the approach of strong enemy formations.

hottelet 24 april 1944 midnite

~~There are no details yet about the heavy American attacks on southern Germany today.~~ ~~All we know so far is that some of our formations met stiff opposition from German fighters. Our own escorting Mustangs and Thunderbolts are reported to have shot down a fair number of Germans. Otherwise our crews report consistently heavy flak.~~

British and American air power from Britain is functioning with the smooth precision of a symphony orchestra. The joint commanders of the RAF and the American Air Forces ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~- wave their baton and you hear the powerful bass ~~xxx~~ notes of the heavy bombers. Then the conductors make anothe motion and you here the clear tones of the medium bombers - and the high note of the fighter bombers. Each plays its own part, but they're all playing the same tune - the destruction of German air power.

~~We hear so much ~~xx~~ about strategic bombing nowadays that we tend to forget the vital function of air power in support of our ground forces. But there are lots of people here in England who are not forgetting about it.~~ I ~~spent the afternoon out at Ninth Fighter Command Headquarters, where 39 year old General Quesada is preparing a powerful force to give our troops all possible air support when invasion comes. Air-ground cooperation is so close at this command that you can hardly tell air and groundforce officers apart. Most of the plans and the xxx equipment of this outfit are still secret - but it's no secret that these fliers are going to be down in the front line practically with~~

censored

24/4/44

the infantry. And they'll be saving a lot of infantrymen's lives.

Still another security measure is announced in London tonight to keep invasion secrets dark. ~~Nxxxx~~ Beginning next Thursday~~xxx~~ noone will be allowed to leave the country unless he's travelling on ~~xxgxxx~~ business of urgent national importance.

Speaking of security - here's a story you don't have to believe if you don't want to. When the new two-man torpedo was being developed - the story goes - one experimental station got rid of all its bow-legged ~~x~~ seamen so it wouldn't leak that British sailors were now riding underwater broncoes.

24/4/44

Even if we meet fighter opposition from time to time ~~there is no doubt that we have~~ the Luftwaffe can no longer dispute our air superiority over western Europe. ~~We are so sure of ourselves nowadays that scout planes, out in advance of our attacking bombers, are allowed to report local conditions back by radio. This sometimes tips off what the target is to be --- but we're so strong that we don't mind. It's even counted a good thing, because it might tempt the even taunt German fighters into coming up. Which is just what we want.~~

Cut By [illegible] Censor

hottelet 21 april 1944 midnite

American medium bombers went out to northern France ~~xxxxx~~ this afternoon to continue the relentless bombing of the German western defense system. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ last night's RAF attack against German transport/ is now known to have been ~~xxx~~ the heaviest of the war. 4,500 tons of bombs were dropped. The blow struck against Cologne -which was only one of four objectives - was heavier than the first thousand bomber raid against that city in May 1942.

Today was the kind of day Mr. Churchill likes. He got up in the House of Commons this afternoon to close a two-day debate. It hadn't really been a debate because all the speakers were ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ unanimous in saying that the British Empire was a ~~xx~~ good thing and getting along very nicely. Mr. Churchill must have been thinking of the RAF's great assault last night when he said that the British Commonwealth and Empire was not only more strongly united, but stronger than ever before. He said that the Empire should draw still more closely together and participate in / postwar world affairs as a unit. The Prime Minister ~~xxxx~~ revealed that he saw the postwar world ~~xxxxxxxx~~ consisting of vast national ~~xxx~~ or federal organizations existing side by side - and said that this would not conflict with a world order for keeping the peace. He ~~[illegible]~~ was obviously thinking of some circles here who've favored closer ~~emotional~~ relations with the United States when he said that "fraternal association with America would not interfere with the unity o

the British ~~[illegible]~~ Empire or breed ill-feeling between Britain and Russia. ~~2~~ .... This parliamentary debate on ~~the~~ Empire policy was probably most satisfactory to Mr. Churchill in showing a greater degree of unity among all parties in the House than has voluntarily been shown for many months.

The Supreme Command of the Allied Expeditionary Force tonight announced that Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton was in this country. You will remember that ~~[illegible]~~ Washington announced in March that General Patton would be given a new army command.

General Patton's presence in England has not been a secret here, and I've asked on occasion why it was not announced. The answer ~~is~~ was that the Germans - WHO'VE CAREFULLY STUDIED THE PERSONALITIES OF OUR COMMANDERS - can draw too many conclusions ~~from the personality of a commander~~ as to what sort of operation he's going to be engaged in. This works both ways. Our own staffs - particularly the British - have probably drawn certain conclusions from the fact that Rommel is the German counter-invasion commander. They know his habits and are probably figuring out ways and means of taking advantage of them. The delay in announcing Patton's whereabouts was undoubtedly in order to give the Germans less time to do the same thing with him.

hottelet 20 april 1944 noon

There was no air activity from this country last night~~x~~ on any large scale - but we may well be heating of more attacks today. The weather over the channel has been clear this morning, and our bombers usually take every opportunity~~x~~ they get.

It's announced today that Lt. Col. Tommy Hitchcock, one of the greatest American polo players of all time, has been killed. Tommy Hitchcock ~~was~~ COMMANDED a Mustang ~~pilot~~ GROUP in England and was killed on a non-operational flight the day before yesterday.

hottelet

20 April 1944

noon

There was no air activity from this country last night but we may well be hearing of more attacks today. The weather over the channel has been clear this morning.

Today is Adolf Hitler's 55th birthday. All over Germany the bright red swastika flags are flying. The propaganda ministry has ordered flags to be flown by everyone -- and nowadays in Germany it's safer to obey an order of that sort. Last night Goebbels made a brithday speech in the Berlin Opera House. He assured that Hitler was still the same, that he still knew what to do at the right time; and that all the things that have gone wrong for Germany over the last two and a half years are just due to bad luck.

Hitler today is probably looking back nostalgically at previous birthday celebrations. He probably remembers the the 20th of April 1941 when the birthday speech was made by Rudolf Hess. He probably remembers his last peacetime brithday in 1939 when he stood on the broad avenue he had built through Berlin and looked arrogantly at the men and the tanks, the cavalry and the motorized equipment that moved past him in endless stream. Overhead squadron after squadron of the Luftwaffe's heavy bombers and fast fighters roared past the reviewing stand and dipped their wings in salute. It was really an impressive sight. And I remember the military attaches who knew their countries would be at war with Germany before too long, shaking their heads. Those troops that rumbled and zoomed and goose-stepped past Hitler

five years ago couldn't know that they were headed for unromantic and useless death - in Russia, in Africa, over England and in Western Europe. They might rest more easily if they knew that there will never again, after today, be a birthday celebration for Adolf Hitler.

And there must be scores of thousands of German fathers and mothers who will get some comfort out of that. Because today is the day on which more than a million German boys and girls who are ten years old are enrolled in the Hitler youth. The Nazi Party ceremony tells them that from now on they belong to Hitler. And this is pretty well true - from now on they do what they're told to help the war. They're used as farm laborers, air raid messengers, helpers in the antiaircraft defenses. Life begins early in Germany nowadays. And it also ends early.

There are a lot of censorship stories kicking around England these days. One of the best tells how the human torpedo was kept secret in the early days. Apparently one of the measures to conceal that British sailors were now riding underwater broncos was to transfer all bow-legged seamen away from the scene of the experiments.

hottelet 19 April 1944 midnite

There was a short alert in London this evening - one of the shortest and quietest we've had. It was almost as if the Germans felt they had to put up some sort of a show of retaliation after the beating they've taken the last 24 hours.

Even those of us who're in England and close to the air war find it pretty hard to keep track of what our communique today calls the "air invasion of Germany". More and more Thousands of planes go out and drop more and more thousands of tons of bombs. New techniques and new patterns of bombing emerge. Only a few months ago our ~~big~~ RECORD attacks - with the great forces and the large tonnages - were against single objectives (MAINLY HEAVY INDUSTRY.) Famous cities - Berlin, Munich, Leipzig Brunswick, Frankfurt kept cropping up in communiques. Nowadays UNFAMILIAR names ~~we haven't heard before~~ are hit -- and attacks are scattered over broad areas. ~~The new pattern is visible, though.~~ ~~Three months ago a [illegible] [illegible] of heavy industry,~~ Today we're concentrating on railroads and communications centers; and on the aircraft industry. These are the essentials of swift, modern warfare. The lumbering tanks and equipment that heavy industry (IS NOW WORKING ON) ~~turns out~~ would probably not appear on the battlefield for a number of months anyway. By that time they would probably ~~make~~ BE too late, so we're bothering less about them and going after the others.

While we're systematically attacking ~~xxx~~ German air strength we're equally systematically building up our own. Tonight the Air Ministry in London announces ~~xxxx~~ a new type of Spitfire. It's the Spitfire 12. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~The earlier Spitfires, including the famous models that fought and won the Battle of Britain were light high-fliers. But this latest one is best at low altitudes.~~ ~~xxxx~~ The plane is heavier and ~~xxtx its~~ THE Rolls-Royce Griffin engines ~~are~~ IS more powerful. ~~xxtx~~ Its development is/characteristic of the foresight and planning ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ that have ~~gone into our~~ HELPED WIN air superiority over western Europe. This low flying plane was first planned ~~xx~~ in 1940, when the early ~~x~~ Spits were up in the air farther than the eye can reach fighting and winning the Battle of Britain.

C.B.S. DICK HOTTELET 18th April, 1944. 1401.30 -
1404 DBST

American bombers are out again this morning to bomb Germany in great strength. We can't give any details of this mission yet, but an hour ago the German radio reported forces of enemy aircraft over northwest Germany.

While invasion preparations are going on in England -- solid preparations, like the massing of machines and men and the striking of powerful blows from the air -- the Germans are actively preparing in a different way to meet the blow.

Here in Britain everything is being done to discourage talk or speculation about when and where and how the actual invasion is going to take place.

But on the other side of the fence the Germans are talking about invasion like mad - not a day passes that German newspapers and the German radio don't predict another date and place and method. And more than that - stories of various German so-called secret weapons are blossoming forth again ... weapons which Nazi propagandists say are going to freeze us to death or hypnotize us or blow us all up together or do something else that'll stop the tide.

It's perfectly true that some of this German invasion talk is designed to pump us for information. But mainly it's intended to stiffen the nerves of the German home front. The average German sees many more Allied than German planes over the Reich.

He's worried about this -- ~~and~~ as well he should be and he knows the wehrmacht is on the defensive everywhere. So for weeks now all the great German propaganda machine has been working on the average man to convince him that everything can still turn out all right if he will only keep a stiff upper lip during the one great hour of climax. The fact that Germany's reserves are nowhere to be seen at the moment is said to be because they're being saved for the decisive moment.

There's another interesting thing about all this German invasion talk. In every previous operation in this war when the German High Command has thought it had a decent chance of success it's kept as quiet as a clam about it. But now even the High Command is publicizing the coastal fortifications and talking about minefields and flooded areas and other defence tactics that should be supersecret. The German defences are strong but it looks as if they feel they aren't strong enough, -- so they're using propaganda to whip up enough energy and moral strength in the German people to bring about a miracle.

The American forces swarming over this island are teaching the British a thing or two. A high officer of the ATS heard thru channels that our GI's were teaching her girls a new game - and she was ordered to find out what it was and what the rules are. The name of the "game" is -- necking.

hottelet 17 April midnite

The British Government tonight took a dramatic step to conceal the secrets of our invasion preparations. Diplomatic privileges have been suspended. With the exception of the Embassies of the United States, Russia and the British Dominions - no foreign diplomat will be able, from midnight tonight, to send or receive a telegram in code. Diplomatic mail must now be censored both ways. And diplomats themselves, and all members of their staffs, are forbidden to leage the country.

This is a very hard step because it affects the other United Nations; but it certainly plugs possible leaks, particularly through Eire, Spain and Argentina.

The British government explains this action by saying that it is completely warranted by the military operations impending this year.

This sign in Britain is not the only one that the war in Europe is approaching its climax. The systematic bombardment of targets in the Balkans is a clear indication that the climax of this war is not going to be confined to the western beaches. It's going to spread politically and militarily over eastern and southeastern Europe. It is our strategy from now on to prevent the Germans from concentrating his forces at the decisive points in time. And it is the German strategy to keep us on the outskirts of Europe until the last possible minute and then rush his reserves to the vital spot for the decisive battle. Both sides are now fighting the war with one eye on the clock.

This helps explain why the Germans sacrificed about

90,000 men in the Crimea. Apparently Hitler felt it was worth it to keep two Russian armies away from the European front for a couple of weeks.

It also explains why we are attacking German communications so viciously all over Europe., We want to make it impossible for the German Command to move his reserves to the vital points in time.

Southeast Europe, particularly Rumania, is worth very close watching for the next few weeks. From what we can see in London the preparatory military - and political-battles for the western invasion are being fought there right now.

C.B.S.   ADMIRAL RADIO   Sunday, 16th April, 1944.
2035.45 - 2038.45 D.B.S.T.

DICK HOTTELET interviewing 1st LT. DANIEL D. HAGARTY

HOTTELET: When our bombers and fighters go out on a mission the boys come back with their own stories. They've had different problems and duties that day, and the dangers they've had to meet have been different. It's practically never that you can get hold of a man who's been both a bomber and fighter pilot - and who knows from his own experience exactly how much fighters and bombers mean to each other.

The only man in this theater of operations who's lived this double life is 1st Lieutenant Daniel D. Hagarty of Winnipeg, Canada and Hendersonville, North Carolina.

Dan finished his tour of duty as a Fortress pilot last December and then, instead of going back home to a training assignment he applied for duty as a fighter pilot. They gave him a Thunderbolt and in March he was flying out over Germany again. He shot down his first German plane last Wednesday. You must feel as if you're looking in a mirror when you fly out with the Fortresses nowadays, Dan. Do you like it any better?

CBS ADMIRAL RADIO 16/4 HOTTELET INTERVIEWING HAGARTY

HOTTELET: You hear more about our fighter planes nowadays than ever before. Not only do they go out with the big bombers, but they even range over Germany on offensive sweeps of their own.

You don't realize, though, how much of a team ~~they~~ THE BOMBERS AND FIGHTERS are until you meet a man who's flown THEM both ~~bombers and fighters~~ against Germany.

The only man in the European theater of operations who's lived this double life is 1st Lieutenant Daniel D. Hagarty of Winnipeg, Canada and Hendersonville North Carolina.

Dan finished his tour of duty as a Fortress pilot last December and then, instead of going back home, applied for duty HERE as a fighter pilot. For the last couple of months he's been flying a Thunderbolt.

Do you like it any better, DAN ?

40

HAGARTY: I wouldn't say I like it any better. It's just another part of the same job. ~~Chances are Joe Louis's left fist likes doing its job as much as his right fist. They're both part of one fighting machine.~~

But I will say this: going over to the fighters ~~makes you see~~ PUTS things in a new light. It makes you see, for instance, how far we've come in the air war. A year ago the Fortresses were still going out pretty much without fighter escort. And the Luftwaffe was a lot stronger, ~~then~~ ~~those days~~ THOSE DAYS. Sometimes we had to fight our way in to the target and then fight our way back out. And those of us who came out used to be just about completely exhausted. The Thunderbolt ~~[illegible]~~ Mustang and ~~the~~ Lightning have changed that. ~~It's the fighter who's~~ THEY'VE made it possible for the Fortress^es^ AND LIBS to go to Berlin in daylight. And they'VE ~~fighter boys have~~ helped cut down our bomber losses. The Libs and Fortresses still have an awful tough job, but it's not as bad as it was in the days before we had air superiority over Western Europe.

HOTTELET: Well, how do you feel about it from the fighter pilot's point of view?

HAGARTY: I can see now that our air superiority has changed the fighter's job too. Back last year our fighters had TO put *all* their strength and skill into one big job. That was to stick with us bombers as far as they could and fight off Jerry planes. Well, now that I'm a fighter pilot I can see we have a lot more leeway today. The main job is still to cover the bombers - and that job is never neglected - but we've got more spare time now. And while some of the boys stay up with our big friends others of us can go off and look for trouble. That's why you read more and more now about fighters diving down to the deck to shoot up German airfields and locomotives and barges and anything else within range. ~~Don't take that wrong. We're not as intimate a team as a Fortress crew; but we're still a team. Our job is to help the big bombers and that takes precedence over everything else - no matter how much we enjoy flying off on our own to hunt up a fight.~~

2 00

~~When I was flying a Fortress I loved nothing better than the sight of one of our fighters up there with us. And now I get a terrific kick when I do an escort job with my old bomber group. But the other fighter pilots are proud as I am to go out and fly alongside our big brothers.~~

HOTTELET: You've ~~bombed dozens of German targets,~~ DONE BOTH BOMBING AND FIGHTING. You've shot down a German plane and ~~damaged a few more, apart from the~~ (BLOWN UP) locomotives. ~~you've blasted up,~~ What's been your biggest thrill?

HAGARTY: ~~I've been in some tight spots, and I can't say I've enjoyed them until they were over and I was safely back.~~ ~~But~~ I think one of the nicest things that's happened to me happened on the train coming down to do this broadcast.

I was in a compartment with a couple of Air Force sergeants. They were Fortress boys. After a little while I got the impression they were talking about me, and I began to feel a bit uncomfortable -- you know how you feel. Then one of them got up and came over and said: "I beg your pardon, sir, are you a fighter pilot?" I said I was, and then this sergeant stuck out his hand and said: "Well then, sir, I'd like to shake your hand". // He wasn't shaking *my* hand, he was shaking the hand of every fighter pilot in England; and I felt awfully proud.

HOTTELET: Dan, I think that speaks for itself - for both of you. Thank you, Lieutenant Daniel D. Hagarty.

I return you now to America in N.Y.

C.B.S. REPORT TO THE NATION 11th/12th April, 1944
0330 D.B.S.T.

DICK HOTTELET interviewing CAPTAIN DON S. GENTILE

IOTTELET: This morning General Eisenhower stood in front of a ~~young~~ 23 YEAR OLD American Mustang pilot. Another Air Force General stood to one side and read from a piece of paper - he said that the young officer was being given the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action - for skill, agressiveness and persistence ... the General ~~read~~ TOLD how the officer ~~[illegible]~~ ~~lead~~ LED his squadron into a swarm of four times as many enemy fighters - HOW HE attacked again and again, even when he was running out of gas and ammunition //.. fighting and climbing, swerving and ~~attacking~~ DODGING, down to the ground and up again, he shot down three German fighters.

On that day - last Saturday, April 8th - ~~23-year-old~~ Captain Don. S. Gentile raised his total of enemy planes destroyed to 30 (-- 23 IN THE AIR AND SEVEN ON THE GROUND) --- more than any other American soldier has destroyed in this war or the last.

This morning General Eisenhower stood to attention before Don Gentile and pinned the D.S.C. on his blouse. And as he did so he grinned broadly and said in his warm, low voice that the young man from Piqua, Ohio sounded to him like a one man air force.

How does it feel, Don, to be a one man offensive?

GENTILE: [redacted] I think General Eisenhower was just being very generous. I'm not a one man show, and I don't feel like one. I'm part of a team and there isn't a man in my squadron who didn't have a hand in the planes I got, and who doesn't have a share in this DSC.

You see, when we go up we go up as a team - we hunt as a team and we fight as a team. When I'm up there chasing around I can keep my mind COMPLETELY on the job. I don't have to worry about myself for a minute because I know that Johnny Godfrey, my wing man, is with me. And when it's his turn to go after a Jerry I fly wing man for him to protect him from getting hit from behind. He's got fourteen planes himself, and I think it's a fairer score if you say that together we've destroyed 44 enemy planes.

We're like a couple of circus hands hammering in a tent stake - first I hit and then he does, and together we get results twice as fast.

HOTTELET: You can say that again, Don. 44 planes is almost 5 German squadrons. But tell me, what's the difference for you between hunting them in the sky or on the ground?

GENTILE: Well, for one thing fighting up in the sky is more fun; and I think, too, that it's less dangerous. When we get down close to the deck they throw everything at us except their bath tubs; when we're upstairs we don't have to worry about FLAK.

GENTILE: Another thing - when we get down to zero feet to shoot up an airdrome or a locomotive we've got ~~x~~ less space to maneuver in, and it's easier for a German plane to dive down on us.

I'd *rather* tackle them upstairs, but when I see a chance on the ground I'll go after that.

HOTTELET: Well, a plane destroyed on the ground is as dead a duck as if it were shot down. And you know, *you'll* attack anything anywhere, no matter what the chances are.

GENTILE: Now, don't make it sound heroic. It's our *orders* to attack - to hit the enemy anywhere, any time.

Which suits us fine, because only attack is going to win this war *quickly*.

I love to fly, but what I want is a career in *peacetime* aviation. That's why I'm so eager to help get this *war* over with.//

We're part of a swell team. The men we've got are great, and the planes we get from home are the best. If *we're* any good it's because you can't be cold on a hot team.

HOTTELET: For all your skill at team play, though, Don, your individual record stands out.

GENTILE: (Contd.) ~~savings bank account to pay 300 dollars for a home made plane. Lucky for me, though, my parents wouldn't let me take it up or I probably would've broken my neck. I kept at it, though, and in summer 1941, I figured we'd be in the war before long so I signed up with the RAF and came to England to the Eagle Squadron.~~

HOTTELET: ~~And~~ today, YOU'VE GOT ~~with~~ 380 hours of big-league combat flying and 181 combat missions under your belt. ~~you got America's second highest decoration.~~

General Eisenhower was speaking for us all when he said that YOUR DSC ~~[illegible]~~ rewarded one of the great deeds of heroism of this war.

We salute you, Captain Don. S. Gentile.

I return you now to Report to the Nation in New York.

Hottelet Admiral Radio 9 April 1944 2036-2052
(Round Britain - Easter, 1944)

This is where the stuff all comes together. When they reach this base the machinery, ~~m~~ and the men and the equipment are at the front.

This is a veteran heavy bombardment group. It's flown 126 combat missions. This Easter morning the group put ITS ~~[illegible]~~ Fortresses to attack Posen, ~~but were turned back by the weather.~~ Many OF THEM ~~more planes of other groups~~ got through. But it's not right to express effort in terms of just numbers of planes and men.

Every mission they fly started years ago for these men. The pilots prepared for it during the hundreds of flying hours it takes to learn ~~th~~ to handle a fortress. And when the bombardiers and navigators, the radio men and air gunners came together from their different schools to form the air crews, each threw in his own share of weeks and months of sweat and worry. Then they came to England together and learned here what only the enemy can teach a man. All this went into today's mission.

But there's more. At this base alone there are more
It's a small scale industrial plant.
than three men on the ground for every man who flies. There are

mechanics and meteorologists; riveters, machinists, metal workers and photographers.... Men who, two years ago, were in school or learning the dry goods business or selling insurance. ~~This field is a small scale industrial plant~~. The field ~~keeps~~ RUNS its own house HOLD with its own cooks and bakers, its clerks and barbers and pants pressers. They all of them are fighting the enemy - now.

And when you're out at a base like this you see how good it is to have allies. The RAF built this place - the airfield, the runways, the dispersal areas and the barracks. Our group just moved in. British ~~secret information~~ EXPERTS helps us pick our targets. They've been fighting the Germans longer than we have, AND All their information and experience is ours for the asking. ~~and~~ ~~has~~ IT'S saved many American lives.

But even that's only a small part of the story. Behind our men here are all the millions who've made what these boys use. A girl on the swing shift in California ~~put~~ hammered in the last rivet that hitched 8,000 horses to the wings of the fortress. The man with the greasy hands on some Oklahoma oilfield helped send

the 100 octane blood that races through the huge engines. .... The bombs came from Pennsylvania, the parachutes and flying ~~xlxthx~~ clothes from New York and Kentucky.

This is where they all come together. This is the point of the sword that America - all of America - is plunging into the enemy.

A fortress group is like an armored regiment. A bombardment division is just about like a tank division. It's got about as many ~~xxx~~ machines and men. The ideas and principles that govern its action are very similar --- and it fights just about as often as a tank division. When the 8th Air Force communique says that divisions of our planes attacked, or that we were out in very great strength, it's describing battle on a scale that armored divisions don't fight every day - even in Russia.

When this group isn't fighting, the men are preparing themselves and their machines for battle. They had no mission yesterday, but I spent the whole afternoon in a fortress flying up and down England with them practising formation and bombing.

Strong as it is today, the American Air Force in Britain is still growing in strength and skill, and it will strike bigger blows against Germany.

BROADCAST FROM BEDFORD

"ROUND BRITAIN"   C.B.S.   9th APRIL, 1944.   2035 - 2052 DBST

DICK HOTTELET:

This is where the stuff all comes together. The machinery and the men and the equipment are at the front when they reach this base. They are doing their invasion job right now.

The airfield I am at is the base of a veteran heavy bombardment group. This Easter morning it went out again, as it has done 126 times before. This morning a group of ______ fortresses went to attack ......______. ______ fortresses, that means ....______ men.

[Figures and place to follow as soon as known]

Sometimes their effort has been less. Sometimes it has been greater, but it is not right to express effort in terms of just numbers of planes and men.

Today&s attack started years ago for some of the pilots. It started for them when they were aviation cadets, and they prepared for it during the hundreds of flying hours it takes to learn to handle a fortress. When the air crews flowed together and the new pilots came from their schools; and the bombardiers and navigators, radio men and air gunners all came from theirs, each threw his own share of weeks and months of sweat and worry into the kitty. Then they came to England and learnt what only the enemy can teach a man. All this went into todays mission.

But there is more. At this base alone, there are more than three men on the ground for every man who flies. There are

ICK
OTTELET:

mechanics and meteorologists; rivetters, machinists, metal workers and photographers. Men who, two years ago, were in school, or learning the dry goods business or selling clothes. This field is a small scale industrial plant. And it keeps its own house, with its own cook and baker, its clerks and barbers and pants pressers. They all of them are fighting the enemy - now.

And when you stay here at a base like this, you see how good it is to have allies. The R.A.F. built this base - the air field, the run-ways, the dispersal areas and the barracks. Our group just moved in. And every time there is a mission, the British Air Ministry in London has a hand in it.. They have been fighting the Germans longer than we have. All their information and experience is ours for the asking. And because we have it, the targets we bomb and the way we bomb them, have cost us fewer lives.

But even that is only a small part of the story. Behind our men here are all the millions who build what these boys use. The girl on the swing shift in California put in the last rivet that hitched [illegible] 8 ~~thousand~~ horses to the wings of the fortress. The man with the greasy hands on some Oklahoma oil field has helped send the hundred octane blood that races through the huge fortress engines. The bombs may be from Pennsylvania, the parachutes ~~tyres~~ and flying clothes from New York and Massachussetts.

This is where they all come ~~gm~~ together. This is the point of the sword that America - all of America - is plunging into the enemy.

ICK
OTTELET:

Long range bombing seems an impersonal business; because there are no trenches and muddy roads, because there is no major raid every day, some people think it isn't really war - the way Italy or Russia sees war. But look at it this way. This fortress group is like an armoured regiment, and a bombardment division is just about like a tank division. It has got about as many men and machines. It fights in about the samw way and just about as often. When the 8th Air Force communique says that a division of our planes attacked or that we were out in very great strength, it is describing a battle on a scale that armoured divisions on the ground do not fight every day, even in Russia.

When the men of this group are not fighting, they are preparing themselves and their machines for battle. They flew ~~x~~ no mission yesterday, but I spent the whole afternoon in a fortress, flying up and down England with them, practising formation and bombing. Strong as it is today, the American air force in Britain is still growing in strength and in skill and will strike bigger blows against Germany.

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hottelet 7 April 1944 noon

There's ~~was~~ been no great air activity. ~~last night.~~ Last night British Mosquitoes ~~of RAF bomber command~~ bombed Hamburg and points in Western Germany. Today the German radio reported ~~[illegible]~~ single planes over ~~northern Germany.~~ the Reich.

Today is a legal holiday in this country and Britain is settling down to the Easter week end. It'll probably do people here a lot of good.

hottelet 7 April 1944 noon

~~The Easter week end is going to do people in this country a lot of good, - except that~~ it's not going to be a traditional English week end of going to the country, of hunting or having parties~~, or just loafing~~. On the contrary, for ~~[illegible]~~ many people in ~~[illegible]~~ Britain this weekend is going to be one of work - just like any other. ~~In the coalfields, for instance, many miners are going to work during the holidays.~~

But the Easter holiday comes at a good time, ~~and~~ because it ~~[illegible]~~ provides a break in the gradually mounting ~~[illegible]~~ nervous and physical tension of this pre-invasion period. These last couple of weeks have been pretty wearing, and tempers ~~[illegible]~~ have been getting shorter. The political frictions of by-elections, of heated speeches and newspaper articles ~~joined with~~ were still more complicated by labor troubles. ~~[illegible]~~ & the tightening up of ~~[illegible]~~ military security regulations on top of it all made it ~~[illegible]~~ fairly certain that every time you opened your newspaper or listened to a radio bulletin you were going to learn something that annoyed you.

Today no newspapers are published, and Parliament has adjourned until next Tuesday. ~~[illegible]~~ It ~~seems~~ even looks now as if many of the labor difficulties may be smoothed out next week. ~~[illegible]~~ In general, The continuity of bickering and tension seems broken, and it may be that ~~this~~ the weekend will serve this country like a good night's rest.

This Easter ~~[illegible]~~ will probably also have a sobering and quietening effect in another way, too. There's a general feeling that ~~it's the most~~ ~~this~~ IT marks the turn into the home stretch, there's the confident hope that it's the last Easter of the European war. And as we get closer to invasion there is more of a personal recognition of the work and battle it's going to involve.

~~and,~~ In Occupied Europe, the millions that listen to British and American radio broadcasts today, ~~on Good Friday,~~ are being given the hope that liberation is not too far off.

But from the other side of the channel comes the grim word that this is a time of preparation for the Germans, ~~too.~~ (AS WELL.) The German Commander in France issued a warning today to the French people to be very careful of broad, hidden minefields, newly laid. ~~the Germans have laid.~~ The warning says that many fatal accidents have ~~xxxxxxxx~~ occurred recently when people strayed into these fields.

For the American troops in Britain this Easter is not going to be like the ones they've spent at home. ~~Txxxxx~~ The Red Cross and the British service organizations are doing everything they can to make this holiday as cheerful as possible. But ~~xxxxxxxx~~ there aren't going to be any easter eggs. It probably won't make too much difference, though, because G I'S ~~[illegible]~~ at some stations have gotten out their paint brushes ~~xx~~ and colored up ~~some~~ cans of powdered egg for the occasion.

'hottelet 6 April 1944 noon

It's generally reported this morning that the British Government is going to ~~an~~ take legal measures to prevent incitement and fomenting of strikes. If this goes through it will not mean that strikes will be outlawed. It will merely mean that labor agitators - or anyone who tries to stir up discontent in any industrial area - will be guilty of a penal offence.

There's a more settled quality about ~~the morning~~ this morning's comment on the labor situation than there was yesterday. The storm blew up very suddenly in this thing, and reached ~~a peak~~ its height with the Trade Union Congress's statement last night that strikes had already gravely impeded invasion. This serious accusation is not being regarded this morning as being literally accurate. As a matter of fact, the circumstance that the new legal measures are being thought of in relation to strike agitators puts the whole affair into better perspective. If the situation were ~~really terribly serious~~ dangerous there would be more talk this morning of measures against the strikers themselves.

This is not to say that the strikes and the conditions that have produced these strikes are not serious. Once the necessity of mobilizing all energy for invasion is past, these industrial and labor conditions are going to force this - or the next - government to take remedial action. But today the essential elements of industrial crisis are not in control. The miners want to help win the war as much anyone, and their strike and the shipyard strikes are born of other grievances.

Now, the government takes the view that military needs

make it essential that no secondary grievance interfere, at this particular moment, with the primary job of preparing for invasion.

If you look at it from this point of view, the government's attitude is much the same as it's been in other recent matters. The government wants to plug every leak and harness every muscle. The measures taken ~~against~~ in isolating Ireland, for instance, come under this heading. This morning, by the way, the public telephone service between Britain and all of Ireland was suspended. -- And Mr. Churchill's action in forcing a vote of confidence in the House of Commons last week was intended to underline the political unity of this country, - it wasn't a symptom of immediate political crisis.

It's open for discussion whether it might not have been more advisable to accompany the adjustment of these domestic problems with less violent language.

This little island, which the British love so fiercely, must seem very much changed to anyone who left it some time ago. ~~has been away, if only since before the Americans~~ There's the story getting the laughs now of the British regiment coming home after two years in the Middle East being welcomed on the dock by an American brass band.

I return you now to Allen Jackson in New York.

Hottelet 5 April 1944 midnite

The Britis Trade Union Congress came out with a statement tonight that makes things sound ~~really~~ bad - as a matter of fact very much worse than they really are. It said that strikes had already "gravely" imeded the "imminent" invasion of Europe and that if they were continued they would produce a major national disaster and imperil the ~~xxxxx~~ victory of the Allied cause".

And Scotland Yard did its bit to add to the confusion today by raiding the headquarters of the Trotskyist Fourth International in London, an organization that has played at worst only the most minor part in the present British labor troubles.

These events, coming as they did after the Minister of Labor's speech yesterday, are sending up an awful lot of smoke for a fairly small fire. Yesterday, you remember, Mr. Bevin threatened openly that if the present strikes continue not only might he resign, but the whole machinery of collective bargaining and labor- ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ arbitration might break down.

The actual strikes that have brought all ~~x~~ this on involve about 85,000 people compared with the more than 6½ million of the Trade Union Congress ~~represents.~~ who're against the strike. The Yorkshire coal strike - and the South Wales coal strike in Februaty and March - have cost the hation about a million tons of coal. Now this is a painful loss to industry, it's true, but a million tons is about two days average British coal production.

And it wouldn't be doing justice to the immensity of the preparations being made here to say that this loss is impeding invasion. As a matter of fact I had a talk this afternoon with one of the key men of the invasion command who showed no signs of worry.

Observers in London tonight are inclined to believe that Mr. Bevin's fiery speech and the Trade Union Congress's still more fiery announcement today are intended to restore the appearance of national political unity inside labor in much the same way as Mr. Churchill last week cracked the whip over Parliament.

This country is working hard, and anyone who's misled into believing that internal difficulties are getting out of hand is wrong - dead wrong.

I return you now

CBS Hottelet Report to the Nation 5 April ~~29 March~~ 1944 0230 EST

I've just come back from a huge school center, Somewhere in England, where many hundreds of American officers are being trained IN CIVIL AFFAIRS TO ADMINISTER WESTERN EUROPE.

I saw student officers from Iowa figuring how to stop a black market - men from Maine planning hospitals and food distribution and electric light. There were men from Oregon and Arizona learning to weed enemy agents out of crowds of refugees.

These students are not college kids. They're mostly middle aged men who've held public office or been successful in business. They're practical people getting practical training.

Their teachers are both British and American. And they're experts. I heard the man who fed thousands all over Britain in the Blitz tell how to improvise mass feeding centers and emergency shelters. The man who runs London's great water shed tackled water supply questions. American college professors teach languages and give advanced courses in the history and economics of Western Europe.

About 150 men on the faculty became experts in Italy. I asked them if they were going to make the same mistakes as AMGOT. I ducked when I said that but they didn't get mad. They said they knew their mistakes better than anyone else; and they weren't forgetting what they'd learned in Italy and Sicily. -- Some of these men have gone into towns before the enemy was out. They know how tough it can be. The Mafia in Sicily has taught them how to deal with a more deadly Nazi underground in Germany. They know what to do with Fascists who suddenly emerge as patriots, and with political swindlers who try to make suckers out of us.

The students get practical problems thrown at them the way they'll come up in the field. One of the teachers went up to a former Indiana

mayor and said something like this -- "You're sitting in your office in Oberschoffenboffen. All of a sudden a baby is born in your waiting room. What do you do?" The right answer - which the Indiana mayor did not give - was .. Go out and help. Other questions that call for quick answers are - How about collecting garbage if you've got no trucks? What if your Police Commissioner turns out to be a Nazi?

The student officer has got to learn to be policeman and nursemaid. He's got to be infallible in politics, be an encyclopedia of local government and still remain human. And the training school is making sure he doesn't go into his job with a peace time paunch. Long hikes toughen him up for the day when he won't have as much as a pogo stick to carry him around, And /He learns how to wrestle with unexploded bombs and booby traps.

Now this joint Anglo-American Civil Affairs set-up is not an AMGOT. We intend to establish military government only in Germany. Friendly territory will, from the start, be administered with the help of the national authorities and will quickly be turned back to them altogether.

The Civil Affairs men are not politicians. They're soldiers under General Eisenhower's command. Their job is to pick up the pieces behind our invading troops. And it'll depend largely on the job they do how soon we'll have to send another army to liberate Europe.

hottelet 3 April noon

~~xhexheatxiszonxthexBalkanzsatellitesx~~ The Germans ~~news agency~~ report~~s~~ that American bombers today attacked Budapest, the capital of Hungary, and that fierce air battles were fought over the city. ~~This would be~~ IT IS the first time Budapest ~~was~~ HAS BEEN attacked. This action and Molotov's statement on Rumania show the heat is on the Balkan satellites.

hottelet 3 April 1944 nooon

Today is Blue Monday for the British Cabinet. ~~Looking ahead to the domestic worries that beset them~~ it ~~this week is a job that~~ Not even last week's vote of confidence ~~will make~~ MAKES THIS WEEK any brighter.

The coal strike in Yorkshire has got to be settled. It's estimated to have cost the nation about a million tons of coal in the last six weeks. It forced the government yesterday to cut~~xgasxand~~ supplies of gas and electricity to industry -- and that at a time when every nerve and every muscle has got to be strained in preparing for the invasion. ~~The~~ there are still 90,000 men ~~who are~~ striking in Yorkshire. ~~are out because a recent wage agreement xxxxxxxthem makes them buy coal for their household use that they previously got for nothing. That seems to be only the immediate precipitating cause - in the way we were taught taught at school that wars have immediate causes. The fundamental grievances that have brought on this strike date back for decades and have their root in a wage structure so complicated that the ordinary man can't begin to understand them.~~

AND, There's a strike of shipbuilding apprentices in the great shipyards of the ~~Cla~~ Clyde and the Tyne that calls for prompt and clear settlement. ~~It's gotten to the point now where trained agitators are suspected of having induced the boys to strike. The reason for this strike is xxxxxxx supposed to be their refusal to be called up for service in the coal mines.~~

~~And~~ it's not only ~~a~~ material, industrial trouble that's going to plague the Government this week. Some ideological and programmatic skeletons are going to be rattled, too. A debate in the House of Lords is going to put the spotlight back on the Atlantic Charter. A motion calls upon the government to clarify its standpoint. But that's not all. There's another by-election coming up, and today an independent candidate announced his intention ~~of~~ TO fighting the government on the issue of the Atlantic Charter.

It's up to the Government this week to go out into the country and follow up Parliament's formal vote of confidence with the ringing - practical - approval of the riveter and the miner's drill.

This stage of the war is the stage of softening up the enemy. Every air force communique tells us how it's being done with bombs and explosives. But there's a side we don't hear about. It's the attempt being made to destroy the enemy's will to fight. We know for instance that millions and millions of leaflets are dropped on Germany and have been for years. We also know that they don't seem to have had any effect — at least the Germans we're actually fighting in Italy and in the skies over Germany don't seem at all to have lost their will to fight. When you try to get hold of copies of the leaflets to find out what they say you're told they're — secret. Not secret from the Germans, mind you - secret from us. ...... Psychological warfare has a very definite function which these leaflets are evidently not fulfilling. It's time they were brought out for overhaul in public [~~to make quite sure they don't increase our invasion difficulties.~~] - the war goes on.

You'll be glad to hear that the Battle of the Atlantic, about which not much is said these days, is doing very well. I'm told that last month we sank about 30 U-boats - almost one a day.

hottelet 1 April 1944 midnite

Liberators of the 8th Air Force ranged out across Southwest Germany today to start the month of April off. It was the first time that an all-Liberator force had gone after targets in Germany. The number of planes was not large - it's unofficially put at anywhere between 200 and 250.

There's been no communique ~~xmxfxxx~~ and the only thing we know so far about where the Libs dropped their bombs is ~~the~~ a Swiss statement ~~thixxxxxxxing~~ that thirty American planes this morning bombed the Swiss town of Schaffhausen. The Swiss say that our planes dropped their bombs from a height of about fifteen thousand feet on the railroad station, police headquarters, the electric power station, some factories and two museums. ~~AT LEAST 50 PEOPLE ARE~~ ~~[illegible]~~

The sparse news on the raid ~~nexxxxxxixkxx~~ available in London is that the Libs flew through difficult weather and had their German landmarks obscured by snow. Not much opposition was met, and our ~~xx~~ escorting Mustangs and Thunderbolts shot down some German fighters. One pilot, Captain Don S. Gentile of Piqua, Ohio shot down his 22nd, to tie the high score for this theater.

~~Schaffhausen is practically on the German border~~

There is no doubt here at all that the bombing of Schaffhausen - if our planes really did it - was ~~accidental~~ not deliberate. The town is in sort of a Swiss peninsula that juts out into Germany

and is surrounded on three sides by German territory. It would not be difficult at all to confuse it ~~with in daylight~~ with a target in Germany ~~in~~ during daylight. Such an error would not happen at night - when its ~~lixxg~~ lights would clearly mark it as a neutral area.

Hottelet 30 March 1944 noon

The House of Commons will probably vote this afternoon on the issue of confidence in the Government. There is no doubt that it will give Mr. Churchill complete support. But, the fact that ~~Mx~~ the Prime Minister made a parliamentary crisis out of a minor domestic disagreement is bound to leave a disagreeable taste.

Mr. Churchill put parliament in a bewildering position yesterday. He asked ~~Parliament is~~ the sovereign law-making body of England to reverse its vote on an issue that had nothing to do with the subject. On Tuesday night the House of Commons - which corresponds to our own House of Representatives - voted to give women teachers the same pay as men teachers. In doing so it overrode the government - by one vote.

Now, in peace time, if Parliament votes strongly against the government in an important question it is interpreted as expressing lack of confidence. ~~xxxthexgxxxxxxxxx~~ The government then resigns or puts the issue ~~bxfxxx~~ up to the country in a general election.

It is doubtful that even in deepest peace a government would have interpreted Tuesday night's minor defeat as a non-confidence vote; but Mr. Churchill chose to do so. Yesterday in Parliament he said the government would put equal pay for teachers up for another vote. If the government lost again, it would resign.

Parliament does not want Mr. Churchill to resign because he has their complete confidence and support as war leader. On the other hand ~~they don't~~ it doesn't like to change a carefully

debated vote on a social reform just because Mr. Churchill threatens to resign. A lot of people think that the Prime Minister is using much too big a stick on much too small a mule. They're afraid that his reasonable request for unity in fighting the war is ~~getting~~ in danger of becoming an unreasonable demand for blanket unanimity in all political issues.

This annoyance is apparent in private conversations and in the newspapers this morning; but it's expressed with restraint. Churchill is still THE war leader and no one wants to add to his burdens. That's why he'll win the vote this afternoon.

But ~~the~~ Mr. Churchill has recently been politically peevish in general. He and members of his government have raised the issue of confidence half a dozen times in the last two weeks.

The fundamental question is why? Why is the Prime Minister so violent in his reaction to the expression of intelligent domestic disagreement when he knows full well he's got the country behind him to a man?

The right answer to that one would fetch a lot of money in London today.

Hottelet 29 March 1944 midnite

What happened in the House of Commons today is a mystery of British politics -- and, speaking as an outsider, ~~ttx~~ it has all th earmarks of being a very unpleasant one. ..... It all began in the House late yesterday, when the members voted an amendment to an education bill. This amendment was to guarantee men and women teachers equal wages ~~xa~~ a concession that's not as self-evident in this country as it is in America. The Minister of Education spoke sharply against the amendment, but was overruled by the vote. Since he's a member of the Government that meant that the Government had been defeated.

Now ~~inxEnglandxxthexxxGovernment~~ in English Parliamentary practice when the House of Commons votes against a major ~~x~~ Government proposal it is a vote of no confidence and the Government either calls a general election or resigns in a body. ~~andxthanxthexfirstxamendment~~ But in the case of this particular education bill it was perfectly clear that the House had as much confidence in the Government as before ~~andxthatxisxasxitselfxwasxnotxveryximportantxx~~ Commons had voted for equal wages and nothing more.

Yet, when Prime Minister Churchill got up in Commons this morning he said that the government would put the amendment up for another vote. ~~It~~ This vote, said Mr. Churchill, would be regarded by the Government as a vote of confidence, and if the Government did not receive an adequate majority it would entail the usual constitutional consequences. Since a general election is impossible under present wartime circumstances, Mr. Churchill's words meant that the Government

would resign.

There is nodoubt that when the new vote is taken - probably tomorrow - the Government will win. It will win because noone wants to lose Mr. Churchill just before the second front. But there is a good deal of resentment in London tonight among people who feel that Mr. Churchill is unnecessarily forcing minor questions by making them ~~all~~ issues of confidence.

The Prime Minister has recently seemed very touchy, politically. Two weeks ago he made an issue of confidence when some M.P.'s ~~asked~~ told him politely that they regretted what he'd said about the Atlantic Charter. A week ago Lord Beaverbrook, who's in the Government, dealt pretty bitterly with critics of the Governm nts postwar plans; and Mr. Churchill was quite rough on those same critics in his speech on Sunday night.

The question everyone is asking is Why? Why is the Prime Minister so violent in his reaction to side issues when he kno knows he has the country solidly behind his war leadership? ~~The~~

A number of people have more or less uncomplimentary answers. But the right answer ~~to that~~ would fetch a lot of money in London tonight.

CBS Hottelet Report to the Nation 29 March 1944 0230 BST

I've just come back from a huge school center, Somewhere in England, where many hundreds of American officers are being trained in Civil Affairs, to administer Western Europe.

I saw student officers from Iowa figuring how to stop a black market - men from Maine planning hospitals and food distribution and electric light. There were men from Oregon and Arizona learning to weed enemy agents out of crowds of refugees.

These students are not college kids. They're mostly middle aged men who've held public office or been successful in business. They're practical people getting practical training.

Their teachers are both British and American. And they're experts. I heard the man who fed thousands all over Britain in the Blitz tell how to improvise mass feeding centers and emergency shelters. The man who runs London's great water shed tackled water supply questions. American college professors teach languages and give advanced courses in the history and economics of Western Europe.

About 150 men on the faculty became experts in Italy. I asked them if they were going to make the same mistakes as AMGOT. I ducke when I said that but they didn't get mad. They said they knew their mistakes better than anyone else; and they weren't forgetting what they'd learned in Italy and Sicily. — Some of these men have gone into towns before the enemy was out. They know how tough it can be. The Mafia in Sicily has taught them how to deal with a more deadly Nazi underground in Germany. They know what to do with Fascists who suddenly emerge as patriots, and with political swindlers who try to make suckers out of us.

The students get practical problems thrown at them the way they'll come up in the field. One of the teachers went up to a former Indiana

mayor and said something like this — "You're sitting in your office in Oberschoffenboffen. All of a sudden a baby is born in your waiting room. What do you do?" The right answer - which the Indiana mayor did not give - was .. Go out and help. Other questions that call for quick answers are - How about collecting garbage if you've got no trucks? What if your Police Commissioner turns out to be a Nazi?

The student officer has got to learn to be policeman and nursemaid. He's got to be infallible in politics, be an encyclopedia of local government and still remain human. And the training school is making sure he doesn't go into his job with a peace time paunch. Long hikes toughen him up for the day when he won't have as much as a pogo stick to carry him around, And He learns how to wrestle with unexploded bombs and booby traps.

Now this joint Anglo-American Civil Affairs set-up is not an AMGOT. We intend to establish military government only in Germany. Friendly territory will, from the start, be administered with the help of the national authorities and will quickly be turned back to them altogether.

The Civil Affairs men are not politicians. They're soldiers under General Eisenhower's command. Their job is to pick up the pieces behind our invading troops. And it'll depend largely on the job they do how soon we'll have to send another army to liberate Europe.

hottelet 28 march 1944 noon

There was no spectacular air activity last night. The RAF sent mosquitoes over Western Germany and the Luftwaffe came over England with light forces. We didn't have an alert in London.

It takes a day like today when there are no air headlines to show how most of our war, here in Britain, is made up of bombing raids on Germany and news from the Russian front. The rest, right at the moment, is politics -- and unusually muddled politics at that. A couple of months ago it looked as if this year of invasion was also going to be a year of political decision. Back in January the Polish-Russian dispute seemed at least to be out in the open and heading for some sort of clear settlement. Today we see that it's as muddled and as far from a satisfactory solution as ever -- if not farther.

I remember that back in January there was also a terrific flurry here in London about the heat Britain and America were putting on Spain to get her to stop helping Germany. Well, either the heat wasn't hot enough or we didn't apply it right, but it doesn't seem to have done very much good. Spain is still sending tungsten to Germany -- and that's been the main issue from the beginning.

And while we're on the subject of things that looked as if they were going somewhere and didn't, we might mention Finland and Turkey. There were hopes and expectations that Finland would go out of the war and Turkey come into it. Neither has happened.

Some of this has just been bad luck, but for the

the most part it seems to be the result of our not putting anywhere near the same energy into our pre-invasion politics as we have been into our military preparations.

This week is being regarded by some military people in London as a particularly important one in the course of the war. With news tumbling in the way it has from the Eastern Front it's been extremely difficult to figure out just how much of a fix the Germans are in. So far it doesn't seem to have been a catastrophe because Hitler has made no effort to pull troops out of western Europe and send to Russia. Some pretty well informed people here figure that if Hitler can continue to manage in the East with the forces he has on hand there he's got the situation under some sort of control. If the Germans now start to draw on the west for reserves it will be a sign that they're in a very bad way.

I return you now to Allen Jackson in New York.

hottelet 26 march 1944 noon

One of the major decisions of the Teheran Conference was passed for publication by the British censor last night -- it's the plan for the Allied occupation of Germany after defeat. There is still some vagueness about precise areas, but it's all set that the British will occupy western and perhaps central Germany; the United States all of south Germany while the Russians occupy east Germany. Berlin will be occupied by forces of all three powers.

This partciular Teheran decision gives only an indefinite clue though to the much more important question of what is going to happen to Germany after the war. The three power occupation is going to be temporary, and the fate of Germany after this temporary period has still to be decided. One thing seems fairly certain, and that is that the territory east of the Oder River will not be returned to Germany. That covers most of Silesia, most of Pomerania, part of Brandenburg and, of course, East Prussia.

This doesn't mean that Russia is going to keep those areas. As a matter of fact the Russians have already fixed their western frontier rather farther to the East. It starts with Koenigsberg on the Baltic sea, and follows the river Pregel to the old Lithuanian border. This gives Russia about one third of East Prussia. The line then turns south, roughly following the Curzon line.

It seems that the Independent Poland, which Marshal Stalin has guaranteed to set up will get all the territory betwwn

the River Oder and the Curzon line, with a front along the Baltic Sea from Stettin to Koenigsberg. I say it seems likely that Poland will get this area, because so far there has been no such commitment actually made to the Polish Government in London. The Poles will get that territory only from the Russians, and the Russians still show no desire whatever to talk to the Exiled Polish Government about boundaries or anything else.

Although Germany stands to lose all her territory east of the Oder, she will probably get back all the rest - namely the part that the British and Americans are going to occupy. This puts it squarely up to Britain and America how long the occupation is going to last. It leaves it up to us how and to what extent we shall re-educate or counter indoctrinate the Germans. ~~By~~ the Russians are leaving ~~leave~~ us an occupational problem a hundred times more difficult than the one we are still fumbling in Italy.

The British and American authorities in Britain know what they're going to be up against, and they're making whatever mechanical preparations they can. There is a huge American Civil Affairs Division under General Eisenhower training in England now - in closest cooperation with the British - to give Germany a military Government and see that Central Eurpoe is not allowed just to collapse into administrative chaos. But these civil affairs people are soldiers. They don't make political policy. Political policy has to be formulated in London and Washington - and it's going to have to be formulated mighty fast if we 're not to provoke the chaos we're tryin to avoid.

hottelet 25 march 1944 noon

The RAF went out to Berlin last night with more than 1000 bombers. A communique just out says that more than 2500 tons of bombs were dropped on industrial areas.

73 British bombers are missing.

The Germans this morning say that the air assault has been kept up in daylight and report our bombers over northwest and central Germany.

The RAF ~~xxxxhxx~~ was out over Berlin at just about the 30 same time that German bombers came over London, ~~but there's no comparison in the size of the [illegible]~~. The Luftwaffe though ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ was able to stage only a pale imitation of the British assault. Most of the noise in London came from the barrage which seems to get louder every time. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Still and all it was the longest raid for a year and there were a sizeable number of ~~xxx~~ bombs dropped. The Germans are imitating the British pathfinder tactics and one of the characteristics of their recent raids has been the clusters of ~~xx~~ target markers that hang in the air over different parts of the city. Usually they seem to be right over your house.

1:00 Maybe these German raids will serve at least one good purpose. Whatever else they ~~xx~~ do they also remind ~~xx~~ all of us in pre-invasion Britain that Hitler can still strike ~~back~~ (some blows) in the air - just the way Cassino shows that his army is still fighting hard. A lot of people ~~xxxx~~ in London who were beginning to think that the news from the Balkans and from the Russian front indicated a German crack-up are down to earth again, and realize that victory has to be earned on the battlefield.

Military quarters here say ~~thatxwhile~~ although the ~~German~~ occupation of Hungary and Rumania has used up some of Hitler's meager reserves it has been worth while from ~~Hitler's~~ THE GERMAN point of view. For one thing no great ~~German~~ garrisons are involved - they seem to be mainly intent on making sure that nothing happens to the vital lines of supply and communication to the south east. And for another, people here are extremely sceptical of reports that have come in fromneutral capitals about ~~patriots or~~ HUNGARIAN partisans opposing the Germans.

~~Forxwhatxitxisxworth~~

Lots of people here have the opinion that the Germans in the east intend to retire to a line running south from Memel on the Baltic sea, skirting the end of the Pripet marshes, along the northern curve of the carpathian mountains and winding up at the broad danube estuary. This line is not too long and is naturally strong. It would give the Germans a better chance than they seem to have now of turning their back to the Russians and facing us with great strength when we invade western Europe.

The ~~musical~~ witchcraft trial in London ~~[illegible]~~ IN WHICH A MEDIUM IS BEING TRIED FOR FRAUD (UNDER A 200 YEAR OLD LAW) ~~further in~~ EXPANDED its MUSICAL repertoire yesterday. ~~when~~ A policeman testified that one of the so-called ghosts asked the seance to sing You are my sunshine.

I return you now to

Allen Jackson

cat

The RAF last night issued an interim report on the damage done to Berlin in the great night ~~xx~~ attacks/between November 18th and February 15th. The statistics are staggering. In those three months 33,000 tons of bombs were dropped on the German capital~~x~~ in 15 attacks. 326 factories were destroyed or damaged - factories which played a most important part in Germany's war industry. The Air Ministry's full report covers eight pages and lists the destruction factory by factory and street by street, including "super-priority" electrical works which provide the complicated/serve apparatus of modern warfare. The first three months of the Battle of Berlin cost the RAF 443 aircraft and about 3,000 men. They left Berlin a shattered city, capable only with great difficulty of carrying out its functions as capital of Germany.

Since then the American 8th Air Force has continued the attack against Berlin by daylight, pinpointing targets that the RAF had not hit. The RAF statement, for instance, says that the British bombers disorganized industrial activity everywhere except in the southeast of the city. And you'll remember that the most successful American daylight raid was aimed against that part of town - destroying the ball-bearing plant at Erkner.

~~[illegible]~~ -

A logical pattern seems ~~xxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx x~~ to be emerging out of the welter of statistics and communiques. It is obviously a pre-invasion pattern. Main weight of bombing continues to be ~~xx~~ upon war factroies - but ~~xxx~~ this is not long term any longer. This industrial bombing has already cut down German reserves, made it more ~~x~~ difficult for the Germans to maneuver and deploy their strength. ~~xx~~ This is most plainly apparent in air war, where the depletion of the German fighter pool forces them to husband their strength and fight only under most favorable conditions.

You'll notice too that we're bombing key railroad lines and marshalling yards both in France and Germany with a view to cutting down still further the German capacity to move their forces to threatened points. And there'll be more and more blows against German transport.

But there are still some tricks up our sleeve in air warfare. Great as the blows have been that the RAF and the American bomber forces have struck we are in a position to carry out air assaults many times greater than have ever been made. So far we've been bombing by day and the RAF, with its more vulnerable planes and greater bomb-carrying capacity, has been doing the area bombing by night. It's quite possible that when we get into the home stretch the Allied High Command may order the combined British and American bomber strength into the air against vital targets. The first small scale experiment of this sort was carried out last fall at Salerno - and saved the day. When we do the same thing in western Europe it'll make Salerno look like a sandbox exercise.

The British, who are great traditionalists, are today trying a woman under the Witchcraft Act of 1735. She's not a witch, and she's in no danger of being burned at the stake. She's a psychic medium charged with being a fraud. A Policeman who attended some of her seances says that one of the ghosts she produced was called Albert and sang "South of the Border" to put the company at ease.

C.B.S. Weds. 22nd March, 1944. 2349.10 - 2351.10 B.S.T.

RICHARD C. HOTTELET interviewing LIEUTENANT JOHN R. WINEBERG

Our 8th Air Force gave Berlin 13 days to clear away the wreckage from the last attack and went after it again today for the fifth time. Once again there was practically no fighter opposition. There's no official word on the size of the attacking force, but unofficially it's put at between 500 and 750 heavy bombers — and a force this size will have dropped at least 1,000 tons of bombs.

I was out at a fortress base watching the formations come back and I've brought one of the pilots to the microphone — Lieutenant John R. Wineberg of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He flew his 22nd mission over Germany today, his fourth over Berlin. How did it go, John?

WINEBERG: It was a lot like the last attack on Berlin, only better. We had pretty nearly perfect flying weather. And this time, too, our formation didn't see a single enemy fighter. As a matter of fact I thought for a while there wasn't going to be any opposition at all. We didn't even run into any Flak until we wefe actually over Berlin. But over the target Jerry sent it up like a waterspout. We were lucky, because we were the first ones in and we were probably out again before they could get the range. Even so we lost a couple of planes.

Another thing that was even better than our last job on Berlin was our fighter escort. I've never seen anything like it. They covered us like a blanket in and out. There were millions of 'em. There was only one ten or fifteen minute stretch in the nine hour flight that we didn't have 'em — and it didn't matter because we didn't need them. They sure looked pretty, though.

We bombed our particular targets through the cloud, but there hppened to be a small gap as we were passing over and my gunner says he saw a

WINEBERG: (Contd.) column of flame 500 feet high — so it looks as if we hit it hard.

HOTTELET: That was the raid as one pilot saw it. The general report says there were very few enemy fighters up. We shot down at least one of them. Our own losses are put at 13 bombers and 9 fighters. It looks as if the Germans are not inclined to send their fighters up unless it's to try to break up a pinpoint, precision attack against a visible target.

I return you now to C.B.S. in New York.

hottelet 16 march 1944 midnite

The American Air Force today took up where the RAF left off and subjected targets in south Germany to an unmerciful pounding. The Germans say Augsburg and Ulm were attacked, but our own communique says only that industrial targets were bombed through complete overcast. Our Forts and Liberators were out in "very great strength" - which usually means between six and seven hundred. At this rate the 22 bombers we lost were about three percent of the total force.

For all of us - and probably you too - who've been asking where the Luftwaffe was, Goering's boys today provided an answer. They're still around. But nowadays they're tending to do what good soldiers always do - especially when they can't afford losses - they're carefully choosing their own time, place and conditions of battle. Despite that today our fighters shot down 76 of their intercepting planes; and the number they lost to our bombers is still to be released.

Film star Jimmy Cagney came very close to qualifying for the Order of the Purple Spotlight - or something - the other day. He was giving a show for officers and men of our Ninth Air Force when there was an alert. Jimmy stepped up to the footlights and allowed as how he wasn't an expert in these things, but he thought the time had come for them all to take a powder. With that he went to an airraid shelter with the audience. When the raid was over they found

hottelet 16 march 1944 midnite

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Jimmy's remark to that was, "Back in the states I had to fight to get two gallons of gas a week, but over here Hitler sends me a tankful -- special delivery."

I return you now to ~~CBS in~~ New York.

no record of "the Pride of Me" - have record "Proud I am". Is that same?

hottelet 15 march 1944 moon

I'll bet the Germans come out today with their usual story that they bombed military objectives in London last night. And ~~that~~ that'll put my wife and me and the people we live with right in the military objective class-because last night we got ourselves a bomb. It wasn't a very big bomb, as bombs go nowadays - only 500 or a thousand pounds - but it went off just outside our apartment house and the blast blew doors and windows out and put holes through the wall.

The communique just out says bombing was wides ~~The raid started off fairly quietly, but then~~ spread with some fatal casualties. Thirteen of the raiding planes were ~~the barrage warmed up and flares began to float down over the residential~~ shot down.

Four of us were sitting in the living room playing bridge and listening to the whoosh of the rockets and the rattling of our windows. We kept on with the game until we heard the breathy, slightly off-key whistle of a bomb coming down, coming down close. We looked at each other and began to crouch - which was a mistake. The next time I hear that whistle I'm going to lose no time flattening out on the floor. ~~The next instant there~~

We never did hear that bomb go off. The next instant there was a shock and everything that was at the bomb end of the room came over and hit us on the head at the other end. We were covered with glass. ~~and everyone was cut a bit~~ Everyone was cut a bit, but noone really hurt. By some chance the lights did not go out and the first thing that struck me was that the blackout was gone so I rushed to put them out. Which was silly because there was a terrific fire right outside the house where a gas main was burning. We figured we'd better go downstairs right away because the Germans might aim some more

bombs at that fire. When we got there we found that each of us still had his bridge cards in his hand.

All this took about two minutes, by which time a civil defense warden had looked us over, seen the blood running down our faces and officially classified us as casualties. From then on we were in the hands of the ARP - and efficient hands they were. We kept telling them we weren't hurt but they bundled us off to a warden's post, wrapped us in blankets and fed us tea. Then we were piled in an ambulance, given blankets and hot water bottles and taken to a first aid post. There they found we had nothing but scratches on the head and on the hands and let us go home again. Luckily our beds weren't damaged so we got some sleep.

Today we and hundreds of families in our naborhood surveyed the damage. It was a filthy mess. Glass and broken crockery everywhere, plaster everywhere and even the soot had come down the chimney and spilled out on the floor.

The casualties weren't finished, though. This morning I decided I'd even take a cold bath to clean off the grime. Apparently I hadn't cleaned all the glass out of the tub because it was then I got the unkindest cut of all.

C.B.S. DICK HOTTELET Tuesday, 14th March, 1944. 1310.20 - 1312.30 BST

Prime Minister Churchill told the House of Commons this morning that Britain intends to isolate Southern Ireland from the outside world during - to use his words - "the critical period we are approaching". The travel restrictions imposed yesterday are just a first step in this direction. Invasion security cannot tolerate even the possibility of a leak.

But while we're concentrating on military preparations, European politics are not standing still.

Here in London we're beginning to take it almost as a matter of course that Russian diplomacy in Europe will catch us flat footed. Russia's Resumption of diplomatic relations with Italy came as a surprise to the man in the street. Official quarters have so far not commented, but it's obvious that the news broke suddenly, even to them.

The British and American Governments have for weeks been considering doing the same thing, but have shied away from it - mainly because they were afraid of public opinion. It was feared that sending a British or American Ambassador to Badoglio would be attacked as recognition and support for Fascism and reaction. The Russians are much less timid. They obviously feel that if Badoglio is to be accepted and used at all he should be accepted and used fully.

The possibility of Rumania coming out of the war is in the headlines this morning, and here too it looks as if the Russians were way ahead of us. We're still shouting threats and unconditional surrender at the Balkans. But the Russians are promising to restore Transylvania to Rumania. In other words the Russians are perfectly willing to persuade Rumania to get out of the war - on the theory that that's what counts.

In the case of Finland, too the Russians have shown they're ready to make concessions to former enemies and to stick to them.

What Europe - both enemy and occupied - is more likely to want than anything else when this war is over are clearcut decisions and a guarantee of stability - one way or the other. Unless Anglo-American foreign policy improves in common sense and courage it may be that Europe will tend more and more to look to Russia for them.

C.B.S.   R. HOTTELET   Sun. 12th March, 1944.   1407.20 - 1410 BST

Lots of people in London are beginning to wonder why there's been so much fuss over the German and Japanese diplomats in Ireland. From the headlines the exchange of notes has gotten in this country as well as in America you'd think that something really vital were at stake.

As a matter of fact, the British and American notes to De Valera were not very much more than routine security measures. We're getting set for invasion, everybody knows it; and our authorities intend to leave nothing to chance - either in the way of physical preparation, or in maintaining secrecy about details. That's why security censorship has been tightened here in England. And that's why we've put pressure on Spain and even Argentina to clamp down on Axis agents. Ireland is another of these small leaks, and we intend to plug it too.

But it's not more than a small leak. There's no question of floods of vital information pouring out to Germany to endanger invasion. If there were, America could not possibly have given the assurange that no military measures were intended against Eire. The German and Japanese legations are pretty well cut off. The danger from them is probably not much greater than the danger from loose talk in a bar in London or in New York.

This Irish thing has started the rumor here too, that maybe invasion has been delayed. Well, that looks like just another wild rumor. As far as I and the other C.B.S. broadcasters here can see, invasion preparations are on schedule and are progressing with a smoothness that we hoped for but did not expect 10 weeks ago.

It's most essential that we do not lose our sense of values.

Only big things are worth great excitement. Mental discipline is invasion preparation too.

Look at our air force people here in England for instance. They're delighted with the turn the air war has taken. But they're looking this particular gift horse in the mouth very carefully. They estimate that the Germans could replace the three hundred fighters we shot down on Monday and Wednesday; so that German front-line fighter strength in the west today is probably not less than it was a week ago. What our air victories have done is to bite deeply into German fighter reserves. This means that the Luftwaffe while it still has the strength to give us some good fights can no longer match us punch for punch in a slugging match for air supremacy. The Germans want to preserve some of their air strength for invasion day, and from now on in they'll fight or not fight in the sky with that one great aim in view.

Sunday, 12 March 1944

CBS WE THE PEOPLE HOTTELET INTERVIEWING LT. JOHNSON

HOTTELET: In November, 1941, Bob Johnson of Lawton Oklahoma was just another boy at Oklahoma A & M. He went in for boxing and he got a scar on his nose from playing football.

Today Lieutenant Robert S. Johnson is only seven planes behind Eddie Rickenbacker's record. In a year with the Eighth Air Force in England he's flown 72 combat missions and shot down 19 German planes.

He's still got his old college sweater - says it's nice to wear after work. But when he goes out his uniform has pilot's wings on it, and under the wings it's got - the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with 5 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Purple Heart and the Air Medal with three clusters.

Bob's got a second scar on his nose now, too - where a German 30 caliber machine gun bullet nicked him.

JOHNSON: I thought they got me,that time. It was last June when a flock of FW 190's jumped us near Rouen. They filled ~~me~~ my thunderbolt so full of holes I thought I'd never get back. Half the rudder was shot away. The oxygen and the hydraulic system exploded in my face. My engine, prop and radio were hit. Both wings were full of holes..... My hand was cut by shell splinters, my nose was bleeding and oil kept splashin in my face. -- It was pretty rough.

HOTTELET: You've had better luck since. On your ~~xxxx~~ four Berlin missions last week you shot down four of Goering's best. How did it go?

JOHNSON: I got those four Jerries in two of the missions - two on Monday and two on Wednesday. I've never seen air battles like those two days..... On Monday I was leading a formation ~~xx~~ in support of our bombers when we ran into three boxes of Me 109's and FW 190's - about 150 planes in all. I'd never seen that many Gerries flying so tightly packed. ... They flew right into the Forts and it looked like two freight trains hitting head on. ...... It all happened in a flash - they came together at more than 500 miles an hour. ...... Well, we dove right in behind them and the sky was as thick with planes as if sombbody'd thrown a handful of sand into the air. ... Planes were going down everywhere. I saw a couple of German fighters hit Forts, stick in their ~~xxxxxxx~~ bellies and go down with them.

HOTTELET: Well, Bob, you're getting on to the end of your tour of duty here. You'll have a chance to take a rest.

JOHNSON: Yeah, but if they don't send me home I might put in for more combat duty.

HOTTELET: With your experience you'd probably be more valuable training ~~xxxxxxx~~ fighter pilots.

JOHNSON: Uh uh. No training for me. -- Fool around with guys that don't know how to fly airplanes? ------ That's dangerous.

hottelet 12 march 1944 noon

Some people in London are beginning to wonder why there's been so much fuss over the American demand that Ireland expel the German and Japanese diplomats. From the headlines the exchange of notes has been getting in this country as well as in America you'd think that something really vital were at stake.

As a matter of fact, the British and American notes to De Valera were not very much more than routine security measures. We're getting set for invasion and everyone knows it; and our authorities intend to leave nothing to chance - either in the way of physical preparation, or in maintaining secrecy about details. That's why security censorship has been tightened here in England. And That's why we've put pressure on Spain to clamp down on Axis agents, and taken a serious view of Axis espionage in a place as far away as Argentina. Ireland is another of these small leaks, and we intend to plug it too.

But it's not more than a small leak. There's no question of floods of vital information pouring out to Germany to endanger invasion. If there were America ~~would not~~ could not possibly have given the assurance that no military measures were intended against Eire. The German and Japanese legations have no radio contact with the enemy, their information has to be smuggled out with difficulty and delay. The danger from them is no greater than the danger from loose talk in a bar in London or in New York.

This Irish thing has started the rumor here too that maybe invasion has been delayed. Well, that looks like just

another rumor. As far as I and the other CBS broadcasters here can see, the invasion preparations are on schedule and are progressing with a smoothness that we hoped for but did not expect 10 weeks ago.

It's most essential that we not lose our sense of values. Only big things are worth ~~big~~ great excitement. ~~Otherwise we only waste energy and befuddle our minds~~ Mental discipline is mighty important in this war.

Look at our air force people here in England, for instance. They're delighted with the

C.B.S. R.C. HOTTELET Thurs. 9th March, 1944. 2352.20-2353.50 B.S.T.

5

There was no German Air Force to keep our bombers away from Berlin this afternoon. For the fourth time in six days our heavy planes went out against the biggest, best defended target in Germany - and they didn't have a scrap. The Fortresses and Liberators went out primed for trouble but in all the flight - and it's a round trip of 1200 miles from Britain to Berlin - they didn't have any.

The targets today were bombed through ten-tenths clouds, so results have not yet been observed.

I'm broadcasting from a point near a big base where I've been watching crew after crew pile out of returning fortresses asking the same question, "Where was the Luftwaffe"? With me here is Lieutenant John R. Wineberg of Sioux Falls, South Dakota who flew his 20th mission today, his third over Berlin this week. How was it, John?

WINEBERG: It was swell. We didn't see a single German fighter all the way in or back - and headwinds kept us over German territory a good many hours. We were the leading formation. That's the one the Germans usually throw the works at, but today the only fighters I saw were American and they sure looked good. We were all set to fight our way to the target and back. We figured the Germans would try their best to keep us from making a milk run to Berlin. But all

we saw was Flak. It was pretty heavy, but wide of the mark. I saw only B-17 go down the whole trip, and our own gang didn't lose a plane or get one man wounded. I don't know what it was that kept the German fighters on the ground. I do know this, though, it shouldn't have been the weather because that wasn't bad at all.

HOTTELET: We'll know in a very short while whether it was weather kept them down or whether we've broken the Luftwaffe's back. Our own losses have shown a remarkable drop during the past three raids from 68 bombers on Tuesday to 7 today. We're watching this curve closely. If it stays down we'll know we've won the air war.

Robert – bad radio words
my friend!

HOTTELET 7 March 1944 noon

British and American bombers ~~are~~ (yesterday) stalk~~ing~~ed their prey in different parts of Europe. It's just announced that the RAF last night sent a strong force against transport facilities in the French town of Trappe, 15 miles southwest of Paris; while Mosquitoes roamed nrothern and western Germany.

hottelet 7 march 1944 noon

It's revealed this morning that our Forts and Liberators shot down 93 German fighters in yesterdays raid on Berlin. This brings the total score of our bombers and fighters to 176 German fighters destroyed.

The first American reconnaissance plane over Berlin in daylight flew across the city yesterday afternoon and took photographs. Fast as he was going he had German fighters on his tail practically the moment he hit the capital, so it may be that we'll have to wait a bit before we get detailed information on the damage done to individual targets in the area.

~~Thxxxxxxx~~ Reports have come in ~~fxxx~~ to London from neutral capitals/ though, ~~xxxxxthing~~ that confirm the story our air crews tell of terrific damage. They say that fires were still burning late last night. These neutral reports say that the assault was carried out in three waves - by about 1,000 planes including fighters. There's no ~~xxxx~~/ information available in London about the number of planes ~~thatxtookxpart~~ we threw against Berlin -- but we've noticed here that the American communique, for the first time, talks of DIVISIONS of heavy bombers sent against one target. The ~~approxixxxxx~~ number of planes in a ~~xixxxx~~ division is unofficially ~~xixxxxxxx~~ given as approximately 400. You can see we've come a long way from the day - not so very far back - when we were talking about attacks by squadrons and groups.

~~Thx~~ German propaganda is doing what you'd expect --

claiming that yesterdays raid was a defensive victory. ~~The part of~~ The German claim that struck me as most significant was ~~when they said~~ THAT this victory of theirs was ~~mainly that~~ ~~they~~ IT prevent~~ed~~ING our bombers from launching concentrated attacks~~, against targets in Berlin~~. It looks as if the people who a year ago poured scorn even on the idea of a large daylight attack on the Reich's capital accept it now as ~~pretty~~ matter of fact.

~~That's the one point on which our own fliers agree with Goebbels.~~

And we don't do all our flying over Germany five miles up. One Fortress crew yesterday hedge-hopped it's way back from Berlin - and when I say hedge-hopped I mean just that. They had to bank sharply to avoid church steeples. At one point the crew whistled and waved at some German girls on bicycles in a village street. And one man, standing on a wagon jumped into a ditch for fear the fort would take his head off.

CBS: ADMIRAL RADIO: RICHARD HOTTELET INTERVIEWING LT. COL. JACK S. JENKINS: 5 MARCH 1944: 19.36.45 - 19.39.45

HOTTELET: The Eighth Air Force has brought the daylight blitz to Berlin - and when I say blitz I don't mean only the bombs, I mean our Lightning fighters too.

X

Day before yesterday our Lightnings penetrated deeper into enemy territory than any fighter has ever done - it's 12 hundred miles round trip from England to Berlin.

Lt. Col. Jack S. Jenkins of Levelland, Texas, led the first ~~group~~ FORMATION of Lightnings to Berlin on Friday and went out again yesterday to cover the bombers that bombed the German capital.

How did you feel on that first long flight, Colonel?

JENKINS: Well, cold, mainly. We hit temperatures of 56 below zero. And when you're that cold you're really shivering. The old Lightning didn't seem to mind, though, she just purred along. And it was more than 1200 miles. We not only flew to Berlin on Friday, we flew around the city and went on farther east, and then went south to Leipzig before we came home.

HOTTELET: They must've done something terrific to the plane to give it that range.

JENKINS: I'm not allowed to tell you what makes it tick, but for my money it ticks better than any fighter plane in the world.

HOTTELET: And you're the man to get the best out of it, Colonel. You've flown 31 missions in it and have shot down two ~~Germanx~~ Germans with a couple more probables. Did you have any trouble these last trips?

JENKINS: My ~~bm~~ gang had no trouble at all, except for the weather. It looks to me like we're top dog over Germany already. We still hit trouble, sure, but our fighters can go pretty nearly anywhere they want to, and our bombers are meeting a lot less German fighter opposition too.

You know, we sit around the station now and then and talk about old times - three or four months ago - like the Bremen show last November, when we got hit by 300 Jerry fighters... That was a bad dream ... Now it's a bus run. And when Bremen gets to be a bus run in 3 months that's pretty good.

HOTTELET: What's the reason?

JENKINS: There's one main reason. Our bombers and the RAF are ~~xt~~ hitting the German aircraft industry so hard and so fast that they just don't have the planes to put up any more. .... You watch and see - it won't be long before our losses to enemy fighters'll level out at a figure even ~~xxx~~ lower~~x~~ than it is now. ..... I'm not surprised. I've seen the beating their factories take. You should have seen the Gotha fighter plant we bombed a week or so ago. Down below were the

JENKINS: (Contd) I've seen the way we do it and I'm not surprised. I was driving around up over the Gotha fighter plant during the attack a week or so ago. Down below were the buildings and about a hundred planes in the dispersal area. Then our bombs hit - wham - and in a couple of minutes when the smoke had blown away there was nothin' there. That was precision pinpoint bombing. Gotha was a plant like Lockheed. It was wiped out.

You know there've been a lot of communiques in this war that said one objective or another had been destroyed or annihilated or something -- but you never seemed to see any direct practical results.

Now, flying over Germany, we see the direct result of our air offensive. And that's the pay-off.

HOTTELET: Thank you, Col. Jack S. Jenkins.

hettelet 4 march 1944 noon

It looks as if today is going to be another great day in the air offensive against Germany. This morning people in Southeast England craned their necks for houfs watching bombers fly out to the east. They were described as one of the biggest forces seen so far. And, at about half past eight this morning a German radio station began to put out reports of raiding planes crossing the Rhine, headed east.

~~Todays offensive follows attacks on Berlin last night by RAF mosquitoes.~~ There is no word in London as to what today's target is. But a communique just out says that last night RAF mosquitoes attacked Berlin.

hottelet 4 march 1944 noon

The common man is in the war news today for ax change. And it's a good thing, because with all the great drama on the huge stage of war we sometimes forget that it's all made up of the lives and work of the average man.

In England the last couple of days have seen some heated debates in the House of Commons xx over raising soldier's pay and family allowances, and over raising the pensions of retired small government x officialsx. As a matter of fact the debate on soldiers pay was so heated that it looked x for a short while as if the Government would be defeated.

And General Montgomery, who's been swinging around the country getting to know the soldiers he'll lead in the invasion took time off yesterday to speak to London dockworkers and stevedores. He told them that they were scheduled for a most importan part in the invasion because he would have to depend on them for his supplies.

But, while the ordinary man in England is getting set for greater effort, the people of Europe xxx are being called upon to make greater sacrifices. There's a report today that the Germans have flooded a small part of Holland as a precaution against invasion. This is only the beginning. The Germans can if they want, flood almost half the country. If they do that the Dutch fear that the salt water will ruin the fertile land for years/

And from other parts of Europe come stories that showing that sacrifice and misery are not occasional and dramatic

but follow people around all day every day.

The other day a woman in Germany left her child out in front of a butcher shop while she went in to buy her small ration. When she came out she found that someone had ~~xtakr~~ stolen the shoes off the baby's feet.

And in Paris not long ago a man sat in a cafe smoking the last cigarette of his tobacco ration. The cigarette slipped from his fingers and had hardly hit the ground before another customer pounced on it and picked it up. A fistfight followed, and now it's up to a court to decide whether a cigarette becomes common property when it falls on the floor.

hottelet 2 march 1944 midnite

Today was one of those days when you see particularly clearly how the European war is split into two parts -- military and political. We started and finished the day waiting for official news from Finland. But by this evening we were also wondering what the Hungarian Prime Minister said in Budapest today about peace; and we ~~kxxxxxx~~ were hearing lots of speculation about what the Bulgarian Prime Minister will say about peace when he addresses Parliament in a day or so.

The latest word from Helsinki is still press comment which rejects the Russian terms. It looks pretty much as if the armistice is not coming off.

Meanwhile the Germans seem to be taking all this peace talk very calmly. ~~Theyxxxx~~ They're saying that the United Nations have now junked both the Atlantic Charter and Unconditional Surrender; and that such political confusion on our ~~part~~ SIDE can do Germany no harm.

On the plus side of the war ledger ~~ixxx~~ are the blows the American Air Force and the RAF struck Stuttgart and Frankfurt today on the Luftwaffe's ninth birthday. A communique just out says that our 8th Air Force lost 11 bombers and 3 fighters and shot down 18 German planes. .... And the pace of air war is going to increase. In London today ~~wex~~ were told that there are as many men now building RAF heavy bombers as there are ~~mmm~~ making arms and supplies for the whole British army. And we were also told that we can

fighting in Italy will probably grow in scale and ferocity. We and the Germans now have about 46 divisions on that narrow peninsula - with both sides about equal. England is obviously pinning her peace hopes on defeating the enemy in battle - not on negotiations.

~~Itxxxx~~

An American Red Cross girl found out today that war costs casualties. Last night she noticed that the soldier from Michigan she was dancing with was pretty clumsy. ~~Tmdxy~~ This morning the doctor told her she ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ two of her toes/ were broken.

I return you now.

hottelet 1 march 1944 noon

the rest of the world
London is waiting about as eagerly as ~~anyone else~~ for final word from Helsinki ... whether it's to be armistice or continued war. There isn't as much sympathy for Finland in this country as there is in America, but everyone here hopes the Finns will get out ~~sfxxhsxmxx~~ - both because it would be the best thing for them and becaus
it
of the blow ~~this~~ would be to Germany.

even though the
~~But~~, Still, ~~despite all the publicity the~~ Finnish
desire for has a lot of publicity
/ peace ~~mmxmmxhsgm~~ gotten/during the past weeks, it is not ~~considered~~ an aforegone conclusion that the Finns will accept Moscow's armistice ~~tmr~~ terms. The British press is showing uniform restraint in dealing with the whole question that looks as if it were officially inspired. there's no point in raising hopes that may turn out to be false. ~~You'd almost think Britain and Finland were not at war.~~

of
The attitude/the Germans to this important step by her most respected ally is ~~jmxtxxhmmt~~ most interesting, too. The Germans have shown no particular signs of anxiety at all. Of course, you~~m~~ wouldn't expect them~~x~~ to be nervous in public anyway -- but it's more
to cushion the shock
than that. They haven't even made the home propaganda preparations/that they would have if they were genuinely nervous. Maybe they feel that the new trade agreement they signed with Finland on Monday night ~~ix~~ foreshadows the Finnish decsion.

Meanwhile, waiting for ~~tmx~~ publication of the Finns decision, German and British propagandists are carrying on a skirmish over whether ~~Rmmmim~~ Russia did or did not get British approval for the armistice terms. The British say today quite categorically that Russia

got their approval before the terms went to Helsinki.

~~Xzksxzafxwmtmxxhmm~~

Maybe it's American daylight bombing, maybe it's just water over the dam - but the Germans seem to have revised their opinion of us. ~~Whenxlxwasxinzkexlinxthreexyearsx~~ Up to not very long ago ~~Amxxinmmmxwarm~~ Goebbels was plugging the picture of Americans as crazy jitterbugs and soft, big-city loafers. Last night he changed ~~hm~~ his tune. His ~~mm~~ chief military commentator, Lieutenant General Dittmar,said, " We in no way under~~xx~~ rate the warrior qualities of the British and Americans. They are tough to a very high degree and stubborn to the same degree. They have an ingenuous belief in their good qualities, a good share of self-possession; they are courageous , partly because of the rural trends in their nature, partly because of their sporting upbringing."

~~Maybexthatixwhy~~ That's probably why The recent air raids on London produced this ~~mffmmt~~ Scene in a London family court.~~xxxmmplmxmfxmmyxxmgmx~~ A wife told the judge her husband had wanted bombing to start again so that she would leave town and stay in the country once more. "But," she said, "I'm seeing it through this time in spite of him".

hottelet 27 feb 1944 noon

The banner headlines on London's ~~front pages~~ newspapers literally shout good news ~~at~~ this morning. They say that the turning point in the air war has been reached; that the Luftwaffe is fighting for its life and is facing destruction. As a matter of fact the papers are so full of our military good fortune at the moment that you begin to look around for the joker. Because you know that, while things are going well, its ~~just~~ not really as rosy as some of the front pages make it look,

And then you see that the sour note in this morning's good news is the almost complete absence of encouragement from the political front. The worst news here is about the new crisis in Polish-Russian relations. ~~There has~~

There have been so many crises and breakdowns ~~in~~ during the last year in the attempts to bring the Poles and the Russians together, that people here are inclined almost to shrug off another one. It would probably be simpler if that could be done but, whether we like it or not, the settlement of the Polish-Russian dispute is vital for the future of Europe...Those are Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden's own words.

It looks now as if a complete deadlock has been reached. The Polish Government in London has informed the British Government that it cannot accept the Curzon line; a semi-official Polish newspaper has stated publicly that a marked difference of view exists between the Poles and Mr. Churchill as to what constitutes an independent Poland. And, justbto make the picture even more clear, the Polish Commander in chief, General Sosnkowski told

And, just to make the picture clearer, it said flatly that Poland could never accept the loss of ~~the Polis~~ her Eastern Provinces.

What this boils down to is a categorical refusal of Stalin's terms. And the Russians seem to have lost no time in adjusting themselves to the new situation. ~~Its~~ It was reported ~~from Poland~~ last night that a pro-Soviet National Council has been established in Poland. ~~in~~ It is in opposition to the Polish underground loyal to the Government in London. This pro-Russian council has set up its own Polish commander in chief, and claims that the Polish ~~troops and the rest of the~~ armed forces wherever they are - in Italy, the Middle East, Russia and Britain - must take thei orders from him.

If this report is true it ~~means~~ probably means that the Russians have given up altogether the idea of dealing with the exiled Polish Government. ~~It means~~ It probably means that the final showdown in this matter will come when the Russians in their westward advance occupy Polish territory west of the Curzon Line, ~~and refuse to let the Polish exiled Polish Government~~ refuse to ~~let~~ hand the civil administration ~~to~~ over to the Polish Government.

Here's a story from a little town outside London ~~in~~ that shows money is still not everything. A man refused a job as rat-catcher at $20 a week but cheerfully took it for one dollar less when he was told he would have the title of Rodent Officer.

I return you now to CBS in New York

hottelet 26 feb 1944 noon

RAF Lancasters and Halifaxes bombed Augsburg twice last night in very great strength. The weather was good and concentrated, effective bombing was observed. 24 aircraft are missing.

~~It was the second night~~

It was the sixth day of the battle to break the back of German air strength. Once again the RAF did what they had done Schweinfurt - they bombed targets that the American Air Force had set on fire for them during daylight. And once again the assault was a double punch, We will probably be seeing this new form of attack more frequently in future. It takesadvantage of a shortwinded fighter defense, and also keeps fire fighters away longer from burning objectives.

People here are watching closely for a consistent decline in bomber losses. When this appears the battle for air ascendancy over Germany will have been won.

hottelet 26 feb 1944 noon

Britain is looking back over her shoulder at the United States this morning. The fact that the Senate followed the House in overriding the President's tax bill veto is taken by everyone here as a political defeat for Mr. Roosevelt. But I haven't met anyone yet who thinks that it's going to make any difference in the American war effort. Lots of people here are inclined to compare President Roosevelt's congressional difficulties with Prime Minister Churchill's inability to assert himself at some recent local elections. They say that these are domestic troubles which do not necessarily affect the national support for each man as a war leader.

Last night was the first night in a week that London has not had a German airraid. It's been the worst week since the big raids of 1941. London's barrage stole the show, so it's not been generally appreciated that the Germans dropped thousands of incendiary bombs and a good many tons of high explosives. The attacks were more than nuisance raids. It's not clear what Goering was trying to do. German air crews who bailed out have said that they were doing area bombing, but their bombs were scattered haphazardly. It's more probable that Goebbels asked the Luftwaffe to stage the raids. He's been trying hard recently to convince the German people that the West is the decisive theater of the war, and that Germany has enough strength on this front to withstand invasion.

I somehow think that Goebbels made a mistake

in ordering raids on London to prove his point. Because the raids have had some effect on the British people. ~~Sk~~ Some of the old Blitz spirit was revived; ~~and~~ the bombed ~~dwelling houses~~ hospitals and burning churches, pictures of ~~people being~~ bodies being dug out from under ~~their~~ wrecked homes has not made people love the Germans any better.

~~On this island we are accumulating~~ There is material power being concentrated on this island for the invasion of Europe greater than the world has ever seen. ~~The~~ ~~German air attacks if the~~ German air attacks that make these people fighting mad ~~given~~ will only increase ~~this~~ the force of the blow we will strike.

Hottelet [illegible] 24 february 1944 midnite

German bombers ~~Thezluftwaffx~~ came over the London area again tonigh for an hour or so, and dropped high explosive and incendiary bombs. The famous barrage opened up at them again, and at times it sounded as if all of heaven were ~~x~~ a corrugated iron roof in a cosmic hailstorm. I watched the raid from the roof of a high building for about half an hour and it seemed to me that the expenditure, ~~alonex~~ of metal and manpower, in the barrage would almost justify the raid.

One thing the German raids have given London this week is a topic of conversation. ~~&~~ You hear people in busses and on street corners and in bars argue about which part of the city had the noisiest night; and they keep comparing the latest raid with the land mine that came down next door during the blitz in 1940. People seem almost pleased to be in the front line again.

Fortunately for us in London, though, the front line has moved across the channel. ~~xxxfarxaxxbombingxixzconcernedx~~ At this moment there are no further details of the great Fortress and Liberator ~~xxx~~ attacks on Schweinfurt and Gotha - but it's safe to say that they probably dropped ten or even twenty times as many bombs on their vital targets as the Luftwaffe did on the London area tonight.

~~Axx~~ This ~~xftxxxxxx~~ morning and this afternoon our Marauders ~~xxx~~ struck at German targets in the western coastal area. The force of 250 that raided three German air bases in Holland was the largest ~~xxxxxxxxx~~

single marauder force ever sent from this country.

~~And tonight the heavy four engined ships of RAF bomber command droned their way out to Germany again ---- but you'll be hearing about that in the morning.~~

~~I return you now to CBS in New York~~

Today was the fourth day of the major offensive against German aircraft factories and related industries in the Reich. It was the second day of coordinated American daylight sttacks from west and south against Germany.

49 of our British based bombers are missing.

So far we know we shot down 37 enemy fighters.

I return you now to CBS in New York

C.B.S. REPORT TO THE NATION Tues./Weds. 22nd/23rd Feb. 1944
between 0230 - 0300 B.S.T.

RICHARD HOTTELET interviewing MAJOR CURTIS BURGAN

HOTTELET: When the American air force sent 2,000 planes out to Germany Sunday afternoon it turned a page in the history of air warfare. It was the largest daylight attack, and part of the most powerful sustained day and night bombing assault ever made.

Commanding a fortress wing on the Leipzig raid was Major Curtis Al Burgan of Hoisington, Kansas ....

BURGAN: .... and you can say I turned a page in my own air history, too, because that raid completed my tour of missions.

HOTTELET: Congratulations, Major; and you certainly have a history. Major Burgan's missions here since November 1942 read like a roll of honor; Emden, Nantes, first raid on Hanover, first raid on Kiel and now Leipzig. It's like following the 8th Air Force through college.

BURGAN: You're right, we got our degree at Leipzig. But it hasn't taken us four years. 16 months ago, we were freshmen. ~~A lot of us thought we were Uncle Sam's fair-haired kids.~~ Now we've settled down to a serious job - deadly, dangerous and sometimes heartbreaking. ~~The man who thinks it's glamorous either settles down quick - or he doesn't come back.~~

BURGAN:
(Contd.) X But, it's more than a change in outlook. We've become better soldiers. Kids who may have flunked mathematics are solving complex problems of ~~[illegible]~~ TRIGONOMETRY every time they attack in formation. // And now, instead of firing at will, the boys hold their bursts till they see the white of a Focke-Wulf's nose. The result is that more of us are getting back and fewer of the enemy.

HOTTELET: The record certainly shows the boys are more businesslike. What about the planes?

BURGAN: Even more so. The fortress I flew the ocean in, in 1942, is a museum piece compared to the one I took to Leipzig. Engines, guns and turrets are improved and more powerful. Our planes handle better in the air too - which means a lot when you're over enemy territory FOR TEN HOURS AND FIFTEEN MINUTES. ~~[illegible]~~

HOTTELET: Have the Germans improved as much as we?

BURGAN: They've improved, too, but we're always a step ahead. All they can do is try to keep up. The German pilot is still tough, his planes and his tactics are still good. But our designers and our crews have too much on the ball.

// You said before that we turned a page in air history ~~[illegible]~~ on Sunday. Well, we had our fighters with us over Leipzig, deeper in enemy territory than they've ever been.

BURGAN: (Cont.) They flew 1100 miles to get in and back, only a few miles less than a round trip to Berlin. || That's more than turning a page - that's starting a new chapter.

HOTTELET: Thank you, Major Curtis A. Burgan.

I return you now to Report to the Nation in N.Y.

Hottelet 21 February midnite

we went out with almost 2000 planes again this afternoon and
~~xxx The record the American air force set up yes-~~
~~Wexputxxlmostxxxxmanx~~
nearly equalled yesterday's record.
~~terday was almost equalled against today~~. Our bombers and fighters went to Brunswick again, ~~and~~ to Hanover and to Western Germany. Airdromes and repair depots in Holland were also hit. The enemy put up fairly strong fighter opposition, ~~again~~. Our fighters shot down 33, ~~and~~ the number shot down by our bombers is still being compiled.
~~The American heavy bombers went out for their~~
Our own losses were very low - 15 ~~fighters~~ bombers and five ~~bombers~~ fighters.
~~assault~~
~~second major raid in two days today. They hit targets in northwest~~

~~There weren't as many planes out this afternoon as there were~~
~~Germany. Althoughxthexsxxlexofxthisxattackxwasxnotxasxgreatxasxyes~~
~~terdayxx yesterday, butxitxstillxrankxasxoneof but the attack was~~
~~probably nearly as heavy. Our bombers today did not fly as far as they did to~~
~~Leipzig and they were able to exchange some of their gasoline load for~~
~~bombs.~~

The raid this afternoon followed last night's 2000 ton ~~heavy~~ RAF attack on Stuttgart, ~~in which about 2,000 tons of bombs were dropped~~.

In roughly thirtysix hours ~~since~~ between ~~Since~~ four o'clock Sunday morning and four oclock this afternoon ~~threexhours~~ British and American bombers have dropped ~~about~~ probably more than seven thousand tons of bombs on Germany. ~~Americanx This~~ ~~xxxxxtime~~

The British and American teamwork that could put more than five thousand planes over western europe in so short a time was ~~expressed~~ REFLECTED tonight ~~by~~ IN a congratulatory message from Lt. Gen. Spaatz to Air Marshal Harris of RAF Bomber Command. General Spaatz said that the heavy RAFraid on Leipzig early Sunday morning had paved the way for the American raid a few hours later. And Air Marshal Harris came back and said that yesterdays fortress raid had in turn enabled the RAF last night to go to Stuutgart with the loss of only eleven planes. The American raid today shows that this day and night teamwork is stretch-

ing German fighter strength to the breaking ~~b~~ point. Shifting the weight of attack from one point in Germany to another they are FIGHTER making it clear that ~~when the last great assault comes~~ the German blanket is ~~too~~ long enough only to cover the head or the feet. It can't cover both together.

Hottelet 21 February 1944 noon

Both the Luftwaffe and the RAF ~~sent what for~~ carried out attacks last night again with what for each is a heavy force. The Germans got through to London with ~~about~~ fifty or sixty planes and dropped incendiary bombs at scattered points in the city.

The RAF sent out bombers again in "great strength" - which means that at least five hundred heavy bombers took part. The target last night was Stuttgart, in southwestern Germany, with diversionary attacks on Munich. ~~Only~~ Losses were much lower than the night before. Only eleven planes are missing.

Hottelet 21 February 1944 noon

Put a red ring on your calendar around yesterday, the 20th of February~~m~~, to mark a milestone in the progress of air warfare. Here are some of the reasons: Within twelve hours - ~~fmx~~ from four in the morning till four in the afternoon more than three thousand planes based on England attacked the German war machine. ~~mtxmmrtemmxpsimtmzimxImmmpmx~~ And most of these planes ~~f~~ were four engined heavy bombers.

In this space of twelve hours it's estimated that almost four thousand tons of bombs were dropped on Germany.

And still another record was set - the Flying Fortresses that went to Leipzig had fighter protection over the target. Never before have fighters penetrated so deeply into enemy territory.

But there's one thing about the air assault yesterday ~~thmt~~ which means more than the new records set up, and ~~thmt~~ this is that the spectacular has now become routine.

I went out to a fortress base yesterday to see the planes come back. I knew that it was the biggest ~~xmix~~ assault we had ever made, so I expected to find the men tense, and I expected to see a certain amount of dramatic But the men seemed perfectly calm - ~~mmx~~ it~~m~~ wasn't the calmness~~mf~~ of men who don't care. It was the assurance of men who know that everything has been planned and everything has been timed to give the boys of the air crews the best possible chance of doing their job and coming back.

When the planes began to come in, one after ~~m~~ the other at iregular intervals the men at the base stood out in the freezing wind and

stopped blowing on their fingers long enough to say "That's Joe", or "Wonder where Bob is".

And then the crews piled out. I looked at them closely to find some indication that they had participated in the greatest blow ever struck from the air. But they just looked dirty and tired. They said it had been a rough mission, and then began to talk almost lovingly about ~~fighters~~ the British and American fighters that took them in, stayed with them and brought them out.

Then I knew why that day was a milestone in air warfare - There was practically none of the glamor of individual performance. These boys, with the dirty faces, had just taken part in a mass action. They looked like infantrymen. And it's the infantry that wins wars.

HOTTELET 19 February 1944 midnite

~~It is reported from Berlin tonight that Field Marshal Rommel has been inspecting the French coastal fortifications~~ With all the preparations being made in England to launch and press home the invasion of Europe, we tend to forget that the Germans are also preparing for the invasion. It was reported from Berlin tonight that Field Marshal Rommel has been inspecting fortifications on the French coast.

A couple of months ago Rommel, who ranks as one of ~~th~~ ablest German commanders, was put in command of the German counter-invasion forces. This new command and Rommel's inspection tours along the Atlantic coast are not propaganda. They are taken here as indications that the Germans look at the invasion as the last decisive battle, and will ~~are going to spare no men and no equipment to~~ stake absolutely everything they have to throw us into the sea. And the Germans still have powerful resources. The so-called Atlantic Wall has been under construction now for three and a half years. At particularly threatened points it starts out in the water and extends back dozens of miles into the land.

Just at the moment it does not seem that the Germans have the Atlantic coastal area strongly garrisoned. But this does not mean that they will necessarily be caught with insufficient troops at the crucial time. For months now the German military center of gravity has been shifting westward, ~~in order to be able~~ most of the Luftwaffe is already in Western Europe. ~~more effectively to cope with a threat from the Atlantic.~~

And there is no reason to assume that the German soldier will not fight as fiercely in the west as he is now fighting on the Anzio beachhead.

Military quarters in London made the point

today that ~~it may be true that~~ even though we will strike with the strongest forces the world has ever seen, this will not make the invasion a walkaway. The enemy will give us a tough fight; and one of the things that would help him most would be for us to overestimate our own ~~[illegible]~~ strength and to underestimate his.

It looks as if Mr. Churchill is leading with his chin again. ~~[illegible]~~ He had sent a letter to the government candidate in still another ~~by-~~ Local / election, assuring ~~him~~ his personal support. The last candidate to get a letter from the Prime Minister was trounced on Thursday; so ~~the opponent~~ it's no wonder that the opposition candidate said today she welcomed the Prime Minister's letters and hoped he would write - her opponent - more often.

HOTTELET 18 FEBRUARY 1944 cm nite

When the votes were counted in West x Derbyshire this xftxxxxxx morning it was found that the government candidate had not only been defeated - he had been swamped./With only 28,000 votes cast/ He lost the election by 5,000 votes, despite the fact that he was backed by the three major political parties. He had received the public support of Prime Minister Churchill and had even had a cabinet minister campaigning for him. It's just thexxxxx xxxxxxx/as if a candidate for Congress in Oregon had been supported by President Roosevelt, Wendell Willkie and Norman Thomas, had had the Attorney-General stumping for him and had still lost the election.

It's generally agreed here that the election is a blow at Mr. Churchill....but as a political figure inside xxxxxxxxin the country rather than as the leader of the national war effort. In recent weeks there has been more outspoken criticism of the Prime Minister on domestic issues. Hx His open intervention in several local elections has not been particularly happy. The West Derbyshire election is a clear sign that the average man will not blindly follow a single leader or a single part in his own local affairs, xp no matter how solidly and wholeheartedly he supports that same leader to win the war.

The election also shows that thx six years xf without elections and four years of almost totalitarian mobilization has not dulled any democratic instincts or made thx ordinary people any less anxious to run his own life. On the contrary the high jinks in this lit-

tle by-election make it kmmkxx look as if Mr. Churchill and his government will be in for a real storm when the war is over.

Meanwhile it's just as well that the Prime Minister's position in foreign affairs xxxxxxxkxxxxx remains unshaken, bxxxuxx It xxokx today seems/as if hexwill need all his prestige in the next few weeks to get the Polish-Russian problem over a very difficult hurdle.

Fortyeight hours ago the Polish Government handed Mr. Churchill their counterproposals to Stalin's offer/ taxnegotiatexonxthexCurzon linex IxxxIxundax-x Stalin had xxx said he would negotiate boundaries on the basis of the Curzon lin xtxndxthxtxthexPolesxxrexxeplyingxby xxx I understand that the Poles have now answered by proposing thxt a a temporary demarcation line bx about halfway betweenx the 1939 boundary and the Gxrzxx Curzon line - with final boundary negotiations postponed until after the war. It is feared in London that this will not be acceptable to the Russians, despite the fact that the Rxkx: Poles are also offering xxxxx/offered to order their underground forces to establish immediate contact with the Red Army; and have xlxx repeated their desire/affxr to resume diplomatic relations.

hottelet 17 february 1944 noon

There are ~~three~~ a couple of little private wars going on in England at the moment - and they're getting plenty of attention ~~despite~~ from people who are ~~getting somewhat bored by seeing the~~ annoyed with ~~the~~ headlines ~~big~~ ~~in the newspapers day after day saying different~~ that have won or lost the Battle of the Anzio beachhead every day for the last two weeks.

The smaller of the two domestic fights is the one between the ~~former Archbishop of Canterbury~~ Bishop of Chichester and Lord Simon. It was started a week ago when the Bishop ~~of Chichester~~ stood up in the House of Lords and said that RAF area bombing was destroying many cultural monuments. Yesterday the former Archbishop of Canterbury introduced a resolution calling attention to the importance of preserving historically and culturally valuable buildings in a theater of war. Lord Simon, speaking for the Government, said that human lives would not be sacrificed to spare monuments, and called the Bishop's words "pestilential heresy". Them's fightin' words inxthe venerable House of Lords.

But the main attraction in local battles is the by-election for the seat in the House of Commons from West Derbyshire. A by-election takes place in this country when a Member of Parliament dies or resigns. In this particular ~~xxx~~ case the man resigned, and three people have come forward to fight for seat. Now, it so happens that there is an electoral truce in England - which means that the political parties will not put up rival candidates, but will combine to elect a member of whatever party has had that particular seat.

But the campaign in West Derbyshire has been a

knock-down drag-out fight because a couple of independents joined in. And nobody has pulled his punches.

The Conservative Candidate, who has Mr. Churchill's support, is the son of the Duke of Devonshire and the seat in Parliament has been in his family for the last 300 years with only one interruption. His platform is mainly that a vote for him is a vote for Churchill and for unity, while a vote against him is presumably against Churchill and unity. He has gotten quite angry on occasion because hecklers in his country districts keep on asking him whether he can milk a cow.

His main independent rival is Charles White, the son of a shoemaker. It was his father who was the only one to defeat the Devonshire family in 300 years. Mr. White says he can do what his father did. He says he's against families holding office too long, He uses loud-speaker trucks in public squares to shout down opposition speakers - one of whom yesterday called all independents "fleas on the dog's body of the government".

The third candidate has everyone guessing. He's made only one speech, and spends the rest of his time being photographed on his front doorstep practicing his cornet.

The election takes place today, and we'll know tomorrow morning who won.

There's certainly one person in London who doesn't care. He's a young American military policeman, Ben Violette of South Bend Indiana. He opened a letter yesterday to find he'd inherited $2,000,000. Since then he's been busy fending off women who want to marry him.

HOTTELET 16 February 1944 c nite

It was announced tonight that the RAF had used a new technique in last night's raid to increase damage. Immediately after the heavy bombers turned back, RAF mosquitoes raided Berlin to hamper the German fire fighters. We don't know exactly what damage was caused in the greatest raid of all time, but it is significant that the German censorship on bomb damage has been tighter than ever before.

In England the American Army lifted a corner of the security curtain this afternoon. It showed that invasion preparations in this country go far beyond the staff changes and the air force concentrations we've been hearing about since New Year's.

I went out to a training area with some other correspondents this afternoon to watch an armored unit go through the

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I was put into a Sherman tank. It was our job to pulverize a position to prepare it for infantry assault We did exactly that, and not theoretically with blank shells either. We were all firing live ammunition. The artillery behind us sent 105 mm express trains over our heads - and the anti-personnel air bursts that detonated very close to us sent shrapnel rattling against the side of our tank.

100

~~The inside of a tank is a noisy world, and the sound of battle comes through strangely muffled. I found that the clattering of the empty cartridge case inside the turret made more noise than the..~~

firing of our 75 mm gun, and that our 30 cal machine gun made more noise than both of them. It's too noisy to talk to other sin the crew except pver the intercom - you almost feel you're in a plane, except that a plane is colder and smoother and much roomier.

The last time I saw this particular tank outfit was 2½ years ago in the big Louisiana maneuvers. They were learning then - and the hard way. The little ammunition they had was blank. Heavy tanks were ~~xexxx~~ very scarce. The men didn't ~~xexxxy~~ quite know what to do with their machines, but were inclined to think of themselves as romantic figures.

Today they showed how far they've come. The tanks are better and the men are better. Many of them have been on the receiving end of a German 88. They know what it feels like to drag your way out of a burning tank - and its not romantic. They know the tricks of the trade. They know exactly what an armored force can and cannot do. The men in my tank crew were battle trained veterans of the Mediterranean campaign. For them, and for most of the others the last three days battle problems were not maneuvers, ~~xbmt~~ They were exercises to keep the muscles hard and the joints limber for the biggest battle of them all.

~~Itxwasxprobablyxaxcouplexofxyearsxagox It's a long way from the bayous of Louisiana to the smooth rolling hills of an exercise area in England, to terrain which is almost identical with the fields of northern France.~~

hottelet 15 february 1944 noon

Our Marauders went out again before noon - and that's just about all the war there is to report from England this morning.

There are plenty of political stories, though. It would be much better the other way around because the politics on and under the British front page today are not the kind that make you feel you're getting anywhere.

For one thing the old story of a German plan to evacuate Norway is cropping up again. There is no evidence available in London that this is true. As a matter of fact, when the same story went the rounds eight or nine months ago it came to be recognized as a German plant. It's probably the same today.

Finland is also staying on the front page. In the history of journalism there has probably never been a better blow by blow and groan by groan description of secret negotiations. And people here are gradually coming around to realize that the Finns - although they genuinely want a compromise peace - are no nearer to getting it than they were a year ago.

And the Spanish question is being dealt with again. It is reported that the British Government has protested to Franco about the increase in the quantity of tungsten the Spaniards are delivering to Germany.

But the Russo-Polish problem is the one that's receiving most attention - because it's the most real. The Polish Prime Minister

Mikolajczyk has now officially postponed his visit to America because he cannot leave London at this stage of negotiations.

It seemed a week or so ago that the attempts to bring the Russians and Poles together were progressing favorablyx in secret. Prime Minsiter Churchill received an answer from Marshal Stalin ten days ago, stating the Russian case. Mr. Churchill immediately informed the Polish Prime Minister, Two of Stalin's major points were that Russia would negotiate boundaries with Poland only on the basis of the Curzon line; and that it was essential that the Polish underground immediately xxxxx establish contact and begin cooperation with the Red Army.

xxxxxxxxgo the Polish Premier sent these facts to xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxunderground. No reply has yet been received in London, and xxxxxxxxxx that

Since then the Polish Government has been in touch with the Polish underground, whose opinion and agreement it insists on having before it makes any commitments, but no answer has come in yet.

Now it looks as if Polish- Russian affairs might be fought out in headlines again. After replying to the Pravda article yesterday by saying it hadn 't helped United Nations unity, the Polish xxxxx daily newspaper in London comes out today with the statement that clouds are gathering.

Personally I prefer the story of the London who found a a handbag with xx £ 4400 in it - that's $18, 000, and handed it right over to the police yesterday' without negotiating. • She's getting a reward.

hottelet 14 february noon

~~Two more appointments to the Invasion Command were announced this morning.~~

The Luftwaffe tried last night to do with incendiary bombs what it has not been able to do for three years with high explosives. One thickly populated district of London had many houses set afire, but the well drilled ~~AR~~ firefighting organization kept casualties low and prevented fires from spreading. In one London suburb the firemen kept one huge fire from spreading to a ~~high~~ power plant ~~building~~ next door in which 5,000 gallons of oil were stored.

This morning two new invasion commands were announced General Andersen of Tunisia ~~will command the east coast~~ takes over eastern command and General Morgan, who has been closely connected with invasion preparations takes over southern command. These are the two commands closest to the Germans.

hottelet 14 february noon

Now that the crisis is passed on the Anzio beachhead, and the Allied forces ~~kxxxxxgxix~~ are again attacking, people in London are asking why it came about in the first place. It's not that there's any particular monday morning quarterbacking going on -- ~~kxxxxxx~~ people are inclined to ~~kxxxx~~ postpone any criticism of our military tactics ~~thxxx~~ on the beachhead. ~~txxxxxxxfxtxxxxtixxx~~ The question ~~thxtixxxxxxxixg~~ on which more and more interest is being focussed is why the Germans made the unusual effort they did to throw the Fifth Army back into the sea.

~~Itxixzxstimatxdzhxrxxthxtxthxz Gxxxxxxzxxxcxxtrxtxdxthxixx xhxtxthxyzwxlt xxxxxtixlxfhxtthixgrxnpxt~~

Why did the Germans bring troops from France and the Balkans? Why did they pull together what they call "battle groups" ~~xinxthx txxx xtxxxgthxxfxtxx~~ with a strength estimated in London ~~xf~~ as equal to two armored divisions and~~xtxx~~ five panzer grenadier divisions? Why did they use ~~thxxxxix~~ their latest ~~xqk~~ weapons like flame-throwing ~~tx~~ tanks and their toughest, most experienced ~~pxxxxhxix~~ paratrooper formations?

~~Expertxopinionxhxxx~~ Of course, it's perfectly true that they did all this to maintain their front in Italy and to protect Rome. But expert opinion here in London says that the ~~xtxxngth~~ manpower and equipment the Germans flung ~~xx~~ into this battle was much greater in proportion than the tactical advantage they would have gained by eliminating the beachhead. The forces the Germans committed at Anzio might have been used to much better military advantage at any one of three key points on the Russian front.

For this reason the opinion is growing in London that the German Command saw a definite political ~~subject~~ issue at Anzio - an ~~subject~~ issue much more ~~definite~~ CONCRETE than general prestige. Events in Italy have always had very tangible repercussions in the Balkans, A show of German strength in Italy would serve as a sharp warning to Bulgaria or Rumania not to try to ease away from their Nazi allies.

Another rather interesting deduction from the German action in the Anzio battle is that Hitler is not very worried about these stories of Finnish peace feelers now going the rounds. This bit of speculation says that if Hitler wanted to reassure the Finns he would be putting up much more resistance on the Baltic Front.

It's too soon to say how much of this is hard fact and how much is guesswork; but one thing is certain. In winning the battle of the Anzio beachhead we will have won more than a military engagement.

C.B.S. ADMIRAL RADIO SUNDAY, 13th FEBRUARY, 1944.
1941.35 - 1944.35 B.S.T.

RICHARD HOTTELET interviewing COL. WILSON R. WOOD

HOTTELET: Our marauders & heavy bombers were out again today bombing targets across the channel

Hardly a day goes by now that you don't hear of a Marauder attack on railroads, airfields, and certain other military ~~targets~~ objectives in Northern France. In the 13 days since February first, these fast American medium bombers have gone out 11 times.

Most of these missions Colonel Wilson R. Wood of Chico, Texas, has been out at the head of his formation. Five years ago he enlisted in the army as a private. Today he is a full colonel at the ripe old age of twenty-five. He is a veteran of 22 missions over Western Europe and one of the most respected commanders in his force.

Colonel, how did you get to be a Marauder pilot?

WOOD: I wanted to be a fighter pilot; that's why I left Baylor University and joined the army. But I was a bit too big for fighters, and a Marauder is the next best thing.

HOTTELET: When he says he is too big, he means he is 6 feet 2 inches tall and weighs over two hundred pounds. You're a pretty big target for the enemy, Colonel, have you ever been wounded?

WOOD: No, I've never been wounded, I've had flak bounce off my steel helmet and my flak vest, but you get used to that. My plane has been shot up pretty badly once or twice, but

WOOD: (Contd.) those Marauders take a lot of punishment.

HOTTELET: You were commissioned in July 1940, and by January of this year you were a full colonel. Few men have ever gone up that fast. How do you explain it?

WOOD: It was luck, mostly; but I would never have gotten along without the excellent training I got from the old army men at the beginning. That goes for the others too. It's this training along with the good quality of the aircraft that's kept our losses low.

HOTTELET: Yes, that's true your losses have been much lower than the heavies.

WOOD: Don't get me wrong. We're not any better than the heavies - either in our men or our planes. We don't penetrate as deeply as they do. We have shortrange fighter cover and we don't have to fight our way to the target hour after hour through swarms of German fighters. The Forts and Liberators do a different job entirely - and one of their raids is entirely different from one of ours. Theirs involves more bombload, more men and larger formations. The Libs and Forts are the battle fleet of the air war. You might call the Marauders the cruiser force.

We're fast, light and manoeuverable. But we're strong

WOOD:
(Contd.) enough to fight our way out when we have to, and we carry enough bombs to do plenty of damage. The heavies fly high and we fly at medium altitude, so we can go after smaller objectives. Each of us has his own special job.

At the moment the heavies are busting up factories and we're out after our own kind of target. I'm not allowed to tell you exactly what we're bombing, but it's going to mean a lot when the big day comes.

HOTTELET: That's the way it is with the Marauders. You don't get to hear many details about their missions - partly because they're secret information and partly because the boys think they're just average.

The Marauders have rolled up their sleeves to do a job of work day after day. They've taken the air war out of the every-once-in-a-while stage. They're the busy seven dwarfs of bombing.

WOOD: But when we hit the Germans, they know they haven't been hit by midgets.

HOTTELET: Thank you, Colonel Wilson R. Wood.
I return you now to C.B.S. in New York.

Dick

HOTTELET 12th February, 1944. noon

Our bombers are out again today and it looks as if the air war is no longer in the every-once-in-a-while stage. This doesn't mean that there will necessarily be heavy British and American raids on Germany every day - but it does mean that we have the strength here now to set the pace of bombing as we see fit.

I've noticed here that the great American daylight raids on targets deep in Germany are beginning to be accepted as almost routine. In yesterday's operations, for instance, the American air force flew the greatest number of fighter sorties ever made from bases in England. Only a short while ago this would have made headlines. Today it's regarded almost as a matter of course. Which is a good thing. Because it shows bombing left the glamor stage and is now hard at work. Like the infantry.

The Polish Prime Minister, Mikolajczyk, has postponed his trip to America again in order to stay in London and lay the groundwork for negotiations with Russia. As far as I understand it the attempts to smooth over the Russo-Polish dispute have gone something like this:

When the Russians rejected the American offer to mediate in bringing the Poles and Russians together, at the end of last month, it was clear that the exchange of Polish and Russian statements in the press had done nothing to help a settlement. So, in the last week in January, Prime Minister Churchill decided to make a fresh start - this time in secret. On January 31st

the British Ambassador in Moscow handed Marshal Stalin a personal letter from Churchill, in which he expressed his strong desire to see a fair settlement in Eastern Europe.

Marshal Stalin gave this letter his prompt consideration and, on February 4th, gave the British Ambassador an answer. This was immediately cabled to London. As far as I have been able to find out, Stalin's letter not only repeated the Russian view about the Curzon line, but also expressed dissatisfaction that the Polish Government had not yet ordered the Polish underground to collaborate fully with the Red Army. Stalin also touched on "broader issues" in his answer.

Last Sunday the Polish Prime Minister went to ~~see for~~ LUNCH WITH Mr. Churchill AT CHEQUERS and was told what Stalin had said specifically about the Polish-Russian problem. I understand that Mr. Churchill urged the Polish Prime Minister to make every effort to reach an understanding with the Russians.

Since then the Polish Government has been in touch with the Polish underground, whose opinion and agreement it insists on having before it makes any commitments.

It is too soon to say exactly how this thing will develop, but there are two hopeful elements in it. For one thing, it's felt in London that the Russians are not insisting on a change in the Polish government, but only on a change in policy toward more underground collaboration with the Russian army. The second hopeful factor is that the whole matter is not just being allowed to stagnate.

Hottelet 11 february 1944 noon

The air forces are out again today. We've been hearing them overhead for hours this morning. I don't know how large the formations are, but I have never heard them make so much noise before. The roaring of the engines made the windows in my living room rattle - and the planes were not flying low.

Last night RAF mosquitoes went out to Berlin, probably to assure the people there that they were not being forgotten. Berlin has not been raided in strength now for nearly two weeks. One of the reasons is the full moon which helps night fighters. But another reason, I am told, is that it has been impossible to get accurate reconnaissance photographs; and that the RAF does not want to risk planes and crews bombing areas that have already flattened.

By the way, the Germans are complaining that British mosquitoes dropping counterfeit ration cards on these nuisence raids of theirs. And it seems that the population makes good use of them, because warnings against the cards and penalties for using them have appeared in the German press. The failure of the potato crop has made the German food situation pretty tight, and counterfeit ration cards can have as profound an economic effect as bombs.

hottelet 11 february 1944 noon

There's a sensational story on London front pages this morning, about probable peace negotiations by Finland. One of the London papers prints a story from its Stockholm correspondent which says flatly that Marshal Mannerheim has paid a secret visit to the Finnish president and urgedhim to get in touch with the Russians.

~~It says that~~ Finnish newspapers have in fact urged the Government to take Secretary of State Cordel Hull's warning seriously. But apart from that there is no information in London to substantiate the opinion that the Finns are ready to break away from the Germans and accept the Russian peace conditions. As a matter of fact there have been times in the last year when there was much more concrete evidence than there is today that Finland was ready to get out of the war. If you remember, it's about a year ago that the Finnish Social-Democrats presented their Government with an open and formal resolution urging it to examine all possibilities to end the war.

There's no doubt that efforts are being made to get the Finns out of the war, but so far they have shown no particular willingness to accept Russia's terms. And that is what counts. The advice here in London is not to work up any unjustified hopes. — they only help the Germans.

I return you now

Hottelet 9 February 1944 nite

A remarkable thing happened in the British House of Lords this afternoon. A British Bishop - the Bishop of Chichester, got up and roundly denounced the way the RAF is fighting the air war. He said that area bombing was "wholesale destruction" in which it was impossible to distinguish between military objectives, ~~and~~ civilian~~s~~ DWELLINGS and cultural monuments. He said that area bombing was bound to stir up hatred and resentment which would outlive the war; and that attempts to justify it ~~smacked of~~ SOUNDED LIKE the Nazi philosophy that might is right". The Bishop then went on to say he hoped Rome would be spared air bombardment.

Instead of being arrested on the spot - as would have happened to him in any other European country, the Bishop was given a polite answer. A government spokesman got up and said that he sympathized with the Bishop's motives, He said the RAF was not used as a terror instrument and that it would continue with ever increasing power to bomb suitable and proper targets.

Probably neither of the two gentlemen in the argument was aware that they were providing in the middle of total war a display of democracy probably of much more lasting importance than the bombing.

While this debate was going on the RAF was finishing up a days work on targets in Northern France. ~~They~~ BRITISH PLANES flew 750 sorties with only one loss. American Airforce marauders had an even better percentage than that. More than 200 of them went out to North

France this morning, on their third mission in 36 hours. In the last day and a half these ~~boys~~ MEN have flown 550 sorties without a single loss.

I just happened to be out at a Marauder station this afternoon when the ~~boys~~ CREWS were coming back from the attack on the railroad yards at Tergnier. They were in high spirits, and had a lot of fun describing how their bombs tossed twentyton freight cars around.

The whole thing seemed very - well - boyish, and I asked one of the officers how old the gang was. He pointed to one officer - a full colonel - and said, "You see that man over there? He'll be 26 years old in May".

I return you now to CBS in New York

Hottelet 7 February 1944 noon

Xxxxxxxxxx The sober news from the Italian battlefront has started a reaction here in London against the optimists who, a week ago, had our troops practically in Rome and had the Xxxxxxxxxx fight for Cassino absolutely in the bag.

This wavering between unwarranted optimism and realism xxxxxxx is xxxxxxxxxxxx interesting xxxxx because it shows that people here, even after four and a half years of war, xxxx are still not able to prevent their emotions from running away with the facts in the case. The main fact in this xxx case is that the German soldier is still a tough enemy - and that he will continue to be tough until he's dead or in captivity. Anyone who assumes xx that we are going to beat the German anytime we meet him - just because we are Americans or British; or just because we have better equipment; or because right xxxxxxxxx is on our sidex - is not xxxxx being fair to xxxx our soldiers at the front who know how hard the fight is. And not only that, the xxx assumption that any particular victory is ours for the asking xx leaves xxxxxxx us wide open for an emotional haymakerx if we do suffer a local setback. ***** This danger is not so acute now, because no great issue is at stake inxthe Nettuno bridgehead. But - some time this year there's going to be a much bigger bridgehead somewhere else in Europe; and it's not going to be won merely by jumping off a landing craft. It's going to be captured yard by yard and there may well be setbacks for us while we establish it. When that time comes we cannot afford the luxury of a disillusioned crying jag because things didn't go as painlessly as had been hoped.

Informed quarters in London are looking ~~looking with particular interest to the~~ with particular interest to the Baltic this morning - and that's not just a phrase. The heavy raid on Helsinki is one dramatic indication that the heat is being turned on up there. But something else has happened up in that part of the world that has much more farreaching significance than airraids. I am told that the Russians have reached the southern anchor of the great German mine and submarine net barrier across the Gulf of Finland, and that they have begun to clear it away. If this is true - and I have no reason to believe that it is not - the way is open for units of the Russian Baltic Fleet to raid ~~shipping in~~ the vital shipping lanes over which iron ore is sent to Germany from Sweden. The Russians can also attack the ~~shipping~~ German military supply ships to Finland and to the German troops on the Baltic Front. Noone knows here how ~~great~~ thick the ice block is in the Gulf of Finland, but it's pointed out that this winter has been exceptionally mild. It's worth keeping an eye on the Baltic from now on.

Here's a human sidelight on one of our invasion chiefs. They showed Irving Berlin's "This is the Army" last night. Most of the big commanders were there. But not Montgomery. I asked why. One of his officers said — "General Montgomery prefers to spend his Sunday in church".

CBS RICHARD C HOTTELET: SATURDAY FEB 5, 1944: 13.07.20 - 13.10

The closer you get to a military campaign the more you try to get down to the realities of what you're going to meet. It's a sort of shaking down that's going on in London right now. For four years now London has been talking about how the liberation of Europe was going to be carried out. The statements on this subject by people inside and outside the British and the exiled Governments would fill volumes. But now, on February fifth, 1944, we're beginning to get pretty close to the realities of invasion and liberation -- and it's becoming plain that most of the plans and ideas that have been expressed are completely unreal.

Take Eastern Europe, for instance. Theoretically no one recognises any changes in boundaries made there since 1939. But in reality the political future of Eastern Europe is settled - it's xxx been settled since 1940 - when the Russians incorporated various territories into the Soviet Union. And few, if any, of the statements made about that part of Europe matter in practice.

Relief and rehabilitation in Europe is another question on which there has been a great deal of preparatory talk. But so far the Europeans who are to be relieved and rehabilitated have shown no signs of uncontrolled joy.

CBS: RICHARD C HOTTELET: FEBRUARY 2, 1944: 13.01.30 - 13.04:

London papers are headlining the American landing on the Marshall Islands, and most of them have maps to show the great distances involved in this operation. Londoners are showing a lot of genuine interest in this battle - not only because of the boldness of the plan and the strategic value of the islands - but largely because the British have a special understanding and - and taste for campaigns on and over oceans. And there's probably another good reason for their interest. The forces engaged in what Mr. Churchill would call the - triphibious attack on the Marshalls are American. This latest action in the Pacific is regarded here as one more demonstration of the courage and drive other American forces will show in the land, sea and air invasion of Europe.

There hasn't been very much said in London in the last couple of weeks about preparations for the invasion operation. I understand there will probably be an announcement on the whole second front setup in the very near future - perhaps even today.

General Eisenhower has been having conferences almost every day with his chief invasion commanders, to whip the invasion organisation into final shape.

But it seems to me that something that's been going on in England shows as plainly as any announcement how far invasion preparations have really gone. For the last few weeks there has been more attention paid to purely domestic affairs than there's been since the Beveridge report. Up to now most of the energy of the British people and of British politicians seemed to be concentrated on problems of war and war production; and on questions of foreign policy. People are talking more of things like future education; and the question of redistribution of election districts is coming up now. But it's the "Battle of Brighton" that is being followed round by round at present. ~~[illegible]~~ It started a week or so ago when a Parliamentary opposition candidate in Brighton claimed that he fully supported Mr. Churchill. The Prime Minister then wrote his own Conservative Party candidate a letter saying that the opposition candidate's statement was an attempted swindle. There was some doubt in Brighton that Mr. Churchill really said such a thing. So today the newspapers print a second letter from Mr. Churchill in which he writes quite bluntly that when he said "Attempted swindle" he meant "attempted swindle".

Mr. Churchill is a fighter, and he's got a lot of energy. But he wouldn't dive into a small fight until he was satisfied with the work for the big one. Somehow all this looks to me as if preparations for the invasion were going very well.